SUPPLEMENT TO THE HINDOO PATRIOT, MAY 17, 1880.

TO THE HON'BLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The humble petition of the British Indian Association, meeting in Calcutta,

SHEWETH,

That, as Parliament is the arbiter of the destinies of the people of British India, and as these have no direct representation in it, it is of the greatest importance to them that Parliament will be graciously pleased to take into consideration the propriety of holding periodical enquiry into Indian affairs, the condition of the Indian people, and the effects of the measures, laws, and policies, from time to time adopted, enacted, or carried out, with a view to remedy defects, redress grievances, and stimulate necessary reforms.

That when British India was under the rule of the late East India Company the periodical renewal of its Charter afforded an opportunity for an enquiry of this kind, and that the Parliamentary Committees appointed in 1813, 1833, and 1853, preceding the renewal of the Charter in those years, collected a vast mass of facts and information relative to the working of the Indian system of administration, and offered valuable suggestions, which resulted in improved legislation and administration, in the amelioration of the condition of the Indian people, in the advancement of their material and moral well-being.

That since the transfer of the Government of India from the Company to the Crown, more than twenty years ago, no comprehensive enquiry into the condition of India has been instituted. During this period many important changes have been introduced into almost all departments of the State for the better administration of the country and the good of the people. In not a few instances, however, far from that object having been realized, they have been attended with contrary results. It is true that the evil effects of some of these changes, or of the actions taken under the authority of those changes, have occasionally been brought to the notice of Parliament, and now and then partial remedial measures recommended or adopted, but there has been no systematic enquiry made into the working of the whole machinery of the administrative system.

That the time, your petitioners respectfully submit, has now arrived for a thorough and comprehensive enquiry into the condition of India, into the tendencies and practical results of the system of administration, which has been in force since the transfer of the country from the Company to the Crown, into the needs for retrenchment and reform, and for a proper representation of the people in the Councils of the Empire. The increased attention, which the British nation has of late bestowed upon Indian matters, and the keen and generous interest, which not a few of its representatives now evince in the good government of India, emboldens your petitioners to approach your Honourable House with this petition for enquiry. They crave leave to notice *seriatim* some of the most important subjects, to which, among other things, the enquiry prayed for may, in their humble judgment, fitly be directed.

LEGISLATION.

The means devised for ascertaining the wants and wishes, the opinions and feelings, of the people of India with a view to legislation had in times past been notoriously defective, and in order to correct this defect the present system of the Legislative Councils was introduced in 1861. Under this system the legislative work of the Government of India was divided into imperial and local, the Council of the Governor General legislating for all imperial matters, which were of general application, and for those provinces, which were not provided with local legislatures, and the local Councils of Madras, Bombay, and Bengal legislating for all matters of local interest. By far the most important feature of the new system has been the admission of non-official members, both European and Native, into the different Councils. This experiment has been in operation for nearly twenty years, but as experience shews it has not been attended with the desired success. In the first place, the appointment of non-official members being dependant on selection by Government, they, as Government nominees, with a few exceptions, have not unfrequently shewn by their action that they consider it their duty to shape their opinion with reference to that of the Government, irrespective of the merits of the questions laid before them, and thus fail to give expression to the thoughts and feelings of the people whom they are supposed to represent. The nomination of native members to the Governor General's Council, until lately, was chiefly confined to Native Princes and their ministers, who were not affected by the laws enacted and who had not therefore the remotest direct interest in the deliberations of the Council, and who, being generally unacquainted with the English language, in which the laws were framed and the debates upon them conducted, were, as a matter of course, not in a position to discharge their onerous and responsible duties with that intelligence and interest which they were expected to exercise from their position, and from the trust reposed in them. In the second place, as the Councils are constituted, the non-official members are in a standing minority, being generally three or four out of twelve or fifteen. In a legislative body in which the non-official element is at such a disadvantage, it may well be imagined that there is no incentive to the expression of native opinion, and when expressed it has little practical effect. It is not therefore a matter of surprise that legislation under the present system has frequently been not in consonance with the wants, wishes and feelings of the people; that it has proved fruitful of changes and innovations, which have tended to unsettle the minds of the people, put them in a state of chronic unrest, and filled them with alarm, apprehension, dissatisfaction and discontent. The want of a proper representation of the wants and wishes of the people in the Legislative Councils has been over-legislation, and the creation of feelings of distrust and antagonism between capitalists and borrowers, between landholders and their tenants, between mill-owners and factory labourers, and between class and class where peace and good feeling prevailed before. It is consequently eminently worthy of your Hon'ble House to consider whether some means may not be devised by which a representation of the people, though necessarily partial and incomplete as an experimental measure, may be secured in the Legislative Councils. Perhaps this object may be to a certain extent attained by doing away with the present disproportion of number between the official and non-official members, by conceding to the Municipal Boards of the several Presidency towns, which are themselves constituted by election, and of a few other principal towns, centres of population, the right of electing a fair proportion of non-official members, the remaining non-official members being nominated by Government, and by extending the scope of the deliberations of the Council so as to include financial matters, in regard to which the tax-payers of India have at present no voice whatever. If it be apprehended that such changes would weaken the hands, which an alien Government in a foreign land ought to possess in ruling it, though your petitioners would take leave to doubt that the administration of India on liberal principles, that is to say, on the eternal principles of justice, humanity, and righteousness, would impair the real strength of British Supremacy in the East, and in Ceylon such a result has not happened, they humbly submit that an effective safeguard already exists in the power vested in the Viceroy and Governor General of India, who is the representative of the Crown and Parliament in this country, to veto any measure which may be passed or to disallow any vote which may be recorded by the Legislative Council, assigning in writing his own reasons for the exercise of this exceptional authority, and to issue Ordinances for a limited period irrespective of the Legislative Councils, to carry out particular measures of an urgent character. Your petitioners submit this suggestion with the utmost diffidence for the consideration of your Hon'ble House.

FINANCE AND TAXATION.

This subject has repeatedly engaged the attention [illegible] Since the transfer of the Government of India from the [illegible] has been a cause of much anxiety to both the [illegible] strain on the Indian revenues, occasioned [illegible] resort to put the Indian exchanges in the most favorable [illegible] Minister of Finance, trained in England for an Indian [illegible] measures have been devised by Governments [illegible] to place the finances of the Indian empire [illegible] Retrenchments have from time to time been [illegible] been developed by increase in rates, [illegible] sion and new taxes have been imposed, [illegible] income and expenditure, results have [illegible] almost every annual budget, which has [illegible] There have been many causes for this [illegible] military charges have increased enormously [illegible] suppression of the Sepoy Mutiny, the [illegible] experiences, was in the best position to [illegible] quirements of British India, declared [illegible] exceed £12,500,000 per annum; [illegible] a half. Thus, apart from the Afghan [illegible] stands at £15,330,000. The extraordinary [illegible] generally attributed to the unsatisfactory [illegible] and to the inequitable [illegible] hitherto adhered. The Government [illegible] pensiveness of the Indian army, and [illegible] of the military charges. It is believed [illegible] without altering the present [illegible] military charges are regulated [illegible] result in a saving of about a million [illegible]

The next great disturbing element in [illegible] partment. The development of the [illegible] judicious execution of public works [illegible] prise this duty unfortunately devolves upon [illegible] penditure should be kept within the [illegible] acknowledge the benefits which the [illegible] ment has conferred upon this country [illegible] penditure has generally far outstripped [illegible] it has not been conducted with that [illegible] result has consequently been serious [illegible] ject a Parliamentary Committee of Enquiry [illegible] of that Committee contains [illegible]

The general course of [illegible] of expenditure. After making [illegible] of rise in prices and for the natural [illegible] to expansion of cost, it will [illegible] ture in not a few cases has been [illegible] would suggest much profit and [illegible]

With a view to bring the [illegible] efficient control, the Government [illegible] the introduction of the new system [illegible] given considerable administrative [illegible] direct result has been an immense [illegible] has been in Bengal alone an increase of [illegible] India by more than three millions [illegible] Government, or by the Supreme [illegible] same; they are burdened with [illegible] the local Governments are to be [illegible] those Governments should [illegible] revenues either in the shape of [illegible] powers of the local Legislative Councils [illegible] of non-official members, so as not to [illegible] present state of things the people [illegible] of saying whether or no a particular [illegible] Surely if the people have been [illegible] the municipal funds, they can [illegible] administration of the provincial [illegible] the administration of the finances [illegible] sult of India and the Provincial [illegible] imposed upon the country [illegible] "Famine Insurance Fund," but [illegible] ed to other purposes. In Bengal [illegible] of the general scheme of famine [illegible] purposes; while the accounts of the said [illegible] kept separately nor published for [illegible] this year by the local legislature, but the [illegible] been done away with. In Bengal, in [illegible] Cess for the improvement of local [illegible] tinctly declared by the then head [illegible] from the provincial funds; but the [illegible] Fund of all roads which were [illegible] priating the proceeds of the new [illegible] intended. In fact, when this [illegible] declarations for an equable distribution [illegible] and the strict application of its [illegible] districts taxed. But the law is now practically [illegible] been largely appropriated to extra-local purposes [illegible] of a distinct kind, the sole object being to afford [illegible]

Extraneous charges of a serious character have [illegible] revenue, part of which, at any rate, ought to [illegible] exchequer, to wit, the expenses of the Afghan war; but they have [illegible] so ably and earnestly set forth in Parliament that [illegible] preservation of England's prestige in Europe. Such [illegible] to your Hon'ble House to consider whether it is just [illegible] of the expenses of the Afghan war upon the Indian [illegible]

Another important question of Indian finance [illegible] little influenced by a consideration of powerful [illegible] the cotton duties. These duties have always been [illegible] and so far as they tended to operate as a protection [illegible] country to the prejudice of English manufactures [illegible] ago; but further reduction of the duties has been [illegible] the loss of nearly a quarter of a million to the Indian [illegible] ing tax has been imposed on trades and dealings, [illegible] reconp that loss.

A most prolific source of Indian revenue has been [illegible] reasons the salt duties in the different provinces [illegible] ment of India, with a view to do away with [illegible] has undoubtedly been fruitful of many evils. [illegible]

salt duties, and this object it has sought to attain by bringing under its scheme of salt taxation subjects of Native States, who were hitherto exempt from it, by enhancing the duties in some of its own territories, and by lowering the same in others. As regards the last measure, your petitioners can state from their experience of their own province, Bengal, that the loss of revenue, about 30 lacs per annum, has not been warranted by the considerations urged in its favor. On this point the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, in the debate on the Budget for 1880-81, at the sitting of the Governor General's Council held on the 2nd March last, made the following remarks:

"As regards the salt-revenue, I will only say that I believe that the increased consumption of salt in Bengal is not in any way attributable to the reduction of duty. The price of salt at the great markets in the interior has not been affected by the reduction. The money surrendered by Government went into the pockets of the traders. The increased consumption of salt is partly due to returning prosperity after years of scarcity and pinching, and partly to improvements in the means of communication. Salt is carried now with safety in a few hours to markets which, before it only reached after a journey of some weeks, accomplished with much risk and wastage. These are among the indirect benefits of our railways which are so constantly ignored. Take the Northern Bengal Railway alone. In 1878 it only carried 2,000 maunds of salt, while in 1879 it carried over a lakh and seventeen thousand maunds. No doubt the differential duty which now exists to the disadvantage of Bengal is mischievous, and the Liverpool salt is being driven out of the Behar markets by Northern India salt, but the remedy for this is, not to sacrifice still more revenue by a heavy reduction in Bengal, but gradually to level the other Provinces upwards, and make them pay what Bengal pays. No impartial man can believe that there is any reason why this should not be done, and why Madras, Bombay and Upper India should not pay what the people of Bengal pay without a murmur, and with a constantly increasing consumption."

These are some of the most important points of Indian finance and taxation, not to mention others which are eminently worthy of investigation by your Hon'ble House. Regarding some of these considerable valuable information has already been collected, and the orders of your Hon'ble House upon them would, it is hoped, lead to healthy action. The recent disclosure of serious mistakes in the Affghan accounts, vitiating the budget by about £4,000,000, and necessarily shaking the public confidence in it, shews the imperative necessity of providing necessary checks and safeguards against the repetition of such mistakes.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

The introduction of a scientific system for the administration of justice, according to fixed laws based on the highest developement of juridical lore in the civilized world, without distinction of person, country, or creed, constitutes one of the highest claims of the British Government to the gratitude of the people of British India. Various improvements have been made in it from time to time; but your petitioners humbly submit much yet remains to be done. For instance, the expenses attending the effort of a suppliant for justice in an Indian court are unfortunately very heavy, so much so that many a poor suitor not unfrequently finds it beyond his means to obtain it. A tax on justice is levied in the shape of stamp duties, and, although the proceeds of this tax after meeting all necessary expenses of judicial establishments leave a surplus, no attempt is made to reduce the pressure of this tax. The agency for the administration of justice is certainly carefully selected, but it is notorious that while the courts of the first instance, which are presided over by natives of the country, possessed of good legal education and training, have of late considerably improved in character and ability, the appellate benches are recruited with members of the Covenanted Civil Service, Europeans, who, in the majority of instances, have had no legal training whatever, who are under the present system of parallel promotion, as it is called, are raised to the bench when too young, without a sufficient knowledge of the Indian world, and without any judicial experience, particularly in civil suits. The Government of India seem to be fully alive to the above shortcomings of the Appellate Benches, and has been engaged for some years past in maturing a scheme for the improvement of these benches; but, although that scheme was recommended by the Chief Justice and other Judges of the several High Courts with one or two exceptions, by two Lieutenant Governors of Bengal, and by the Viceroy in Council with one dissentient member, and although the necessary funds for the introduction of the measure as an experimental one were found by the Bengal Government, the Right Hon'ble the Secretary of State for India did not think it fit to sanction it, and thus a most necessary judicial reform, which the country urgently needs, is left unaccomplished. The administration of criminal justice also requires serious consideration. The stamp feature, which in criminal cases appears to be most objectionable, by the laws as now current, the Magistrates are vested with too much judicial discretion, and, as in the interior of the country there is neither a vigilant press nor a sufficiently strong public opinion, there is little check over the whims, idiosyncracies, and vagaries of magisterial authorities, particularly in matters, in which they can exercise summary jurisdiction without the wholesome check of an appellate Court. British justice is justly considered the strongest bulwark of British power in India, and it is therefore of the highest importance that the people and machinary for dispensing it should be placed on as sound and satisfactory a footing as possible.

LANDED-TENURES.

India is essentially an agricultural country. Its people, for the most part, depend upon the produce of the land for their livelihood; and the condition on which the land is occupied consequently materially affects the agricultural industry of the country. There are two systems in vogue in British India respecting the regulation of the land tax, one is called the Permanent Settlement and the other the Temporary Settlement. The Permanent Settlement was introduced in the beginning of British rule into the provinces of Bengal and Behar, and also into certain parts of the Benares division of the North-Western Provinces, and of the Madras Presidency. The beneficial effects of the Permanent Settlement are patent in Bengal, one-third of which, it is said, was covered with jungle at the time of the Settlement. The last three Lieutenant Governors of Bengal bear the following testimony to the practical effects of the Permanent Settlement:

"The revenue of the permanently settled estates in Bengal has for years been realized with great punctuality. Losses sometimes occur through famine epidemics, the devastations of rivers, and other calamities of seasons; but under the considerations of the Settlement, no single pleas can be urged on excuses for non-payment; and as a rule, the large present excess of the annual rental over the Government demand, enables the present holders to meet that demand even in the most disastrous years."—Sir G. Campbell's Administration Report for 1872-73.

"The deficiency of the collections consequent on the famine was very small, and such suspension of revenue as were granted were given as a reward for exceptional exertions in relieving distress. The result is considered by the local Government (Sir R. Temple) as creditable to the working of the Permanent Settlement." Moral and Material Condition of India for 1873-74.

"I have just returned from visiting the Eastern districts, and I may say, on this occasion when my administration is only at the commencement, what I could not well say at a later period without seeming to seek credit for the Government of which I am the head. Great as was the progress which I knew had been in the position of the cultivating classes, I was quite unprepared to find them occupying a position so different from that which I remembered them to occupy when I first came to the country. They were then poor and oppressed, with little incentive to improve the productive powers of the soil. I find them now as prosperous as independent, and as comfortable as the peasantry, I believe, of any country in the world; well fed, well clothed and to enjoy the full benefit of their own labours, and to hold their own and obtain prompt redress for any wrong."—Sir Ashley Eden's Speech in 1877.

On the other hand the Temporary Settlement, which varies from one year to thirty years, by opening periodically the question of assessment, has discouraging and demoralizing effects upon the cultivators of the soil, and tends to clog the springs of industry. The result is that the agricultural population of temporarily settled districts generally live from hand to mouth, have scarcely any margin left to fall back upon in case of necessity or providential visitation, cannot look forward to any substantial class of landed proprietors for help and relief in times of distress, for all are on a dead level, and are in some parts of the country so hopelessly involved in debt that in order to extricate them from

their sad position the Government has considered it their duty to suspend the ordinary laws in those tracts, and adopted exceptional measures and machinery for their benefit, though it is observable that according to many competent European authorities and well-informed native opinion such measures and machinery would little avail till an adequate interest in the soil was conceded to the landed classes by the permanent assessment of the land-tax. Such permanent limitation of the State demand upon the land might not be in accordance with the modern principles of political economy, but your petitioners respectfully submit that such principles apply to a country, where all necessary conditions for the application of those principles are fulfilled. When the comparative effects of the two systems of land settlement in India have been fully tested by time and experience, it is evident that that which has proved most beneficial is best suited for it, and it is therefore eminently worthy of enquiry whether for the greatest good of the greatest number the land-tax of India should not be fixed in perpetuity.

EMPLOYMENT OF NATIVES.

Close upon half a century ago Parliament had, by a formal statute, declared the eligibility of natives of India to employment in the higher offices of the State in their own country. The Charter Act of 1833 contained the following provision on the subject: "That no native of the said territory nor any natural-born subject of His Majesty resident therein, shall, by reason of religion, place, birth, descent or colour or any of them, be disabled from holding any place or office or employment whatever under the said Company." This statutory declaration was followed by a despatch from the Court of Directors to the Government of India, containing their interpretation of the Act of Parliament. They wrote: "They conceive the section to mean there shall be no governing caste in British India, that whatever other tests of qualification may be adopted no subject of the King, whether of Indian, or British, or mixed descent shall be excluded from the posts usually conferred on our uncovenanted servants in India, or from the convenanted service itself, provided he be otherwise eligible." But for two decades this statute remained a lead letter. The Covenanted Civil Service of India used to be the monopoly of the nominees of the Directors of the East India Company. When the Charter of the Company was renewed in 1853, the Service was thrown open to public competition, but as London was made the seat of competition the natives of India, governed by peculiar social customs, and required to make large sacrifices by expatriating themselves from their own country, tearing family ties, subordinating religious feelings, incurring heavy expense, and other disadvantages for the sake of mere chance of success in a competition to obtain a certificate for service in their own father-land, have been practically shut out from it. Although the competitive system has been in operation for nearly thirty years not more than nine Indian candidates have been able to enter the service by successfully passing the examination. These facts shew conclusively that the *locale* of the competitive test operates to all intents and purposes as a bar to the appearance of Indian candidates. This difficulty has been greatly aggravated by the reduction of the limit of age for candidates from 21 to 19 years. When this change was made, its object was explained to be to facilitate the University education of successful candidates, but in the correspondence which recently passed between the Government of India and the Secretary of State, regarding the rules to be adopted for the admission of Natives of India into the Covenanted Civil Service under the statute of 1870, the Viceroy in Council, contrary to the provisions of the Parliamentary Act and the repeated promises of Parliament and the Crown, sought to create a Special Native Civil Service, to which would be open some of the present lower appointments reserved for the Covenanted Civil Service, and in doing so His Excellency in Council remarked:

"In the opinion of the Government of India, and of most of the officers who have been consulted, it is desirable that, when this Special Native Service is constituted, the ordinary Covenanted Civil Service should no longer be open to Natives." Again "The recent reduction of the standard of age for the competitive examination will practically render the competition of Natives educated in their own country, a matter of exceptional difficulty."

It will be thus seen in what spirit the reduction of age for the Indian Civil Service competition has been conceived and carried out. In 1868 the Government of India proposed to found a few scholarships with a view to "encourage Natives of India to resort more freely to England for the purpose of perfecting their education, and of studying for the various learned professions, for the Civil Service, or for other public employment in this country." The Duke of Argyll, the then Secretary of State, was of opinion that the requiring the Natives of India to pass the competitive examination in London, was not just to them. His Grace wrote: "In the 14 years during which competitive examination in England has been the sole door of admission to the Covenanted Civil Service, not more than 16 Native candidates have appeared, and only one of these has succeeded. Hence it is clear that the regulations, which forbid the appointment to the Covenanted Civil Service of any person, who shall not have passed successfully through competitive examinations held in England, are regulations which practically exclude the Natives of India from that service. It is not therefore, the abstract merits of an education in England, as the best mode of qualifying Natives for high civil employment in India, which led you to resort to the scheme of scholarships. It was a scheme which arose out of the necessities of the case. It was the only one open to our adoption if the Natives of India were not to be wholly excluded from any share in the higher offices connected with the administration of their country." Accordingly His Grace carried through Parliament a Bill, which as His Lordship expressed himself, "will set free the Government of India (under rules and regulations yet to be determined upon) to appoint Natives to all or any of the offices now exclusively confined to the Covenanted Civil Service." This Act was passed in 1870, and nearly ten years elapsed without any effective steps being taken to carry it into operation. Last year some rules were, however, issued with the sanction of the Secretary of State, authorizing the Government of India to appoint annually, on the nomination of the several Local Governments, certain native gentlemen of good family and education, not exceeding one-sixth of the total appointments to be given away by Civil Service competition each year. The status of the gentlemen to be thus appointed is not defined; in the notification of their appointment they have not been gazetted as members of the Covenanted Civil Service, but gazetted as members of the Native Civil Service, a branch of the public service, which was till then not in existence; it is not known to what appointments they will be hereafter considered eligible, and how their promotion will be regulated. Only two things seem to be at present definitively settled, viz, that the native civilians shall be appointed by nomination, and not selected by competition, and that they shall be paid salaries one-third less the amount now paid to the European members of the Covenanted Civil Service. With regard to the last, your petitioners readily admit that one of the chief recommendations in favour of the employment of qualified natives in the higher offices of the State is economy, and surely it cannot be reasonable that a native of India should be allowed the same rate of pay that might fairly be claimed by a European, who expatriates himself from his father-land and faces a country and climate not ordinarily suited to him. But it is worthy of consideration whether the differentiation in pay should not commence at a stage when it will less resemble a bare subsistence allowance, and whether it would not have a better moral effect, if the pay attached to the different offices be fixed uniformly on equitable principles, and the excess to be given to European officers for special reasons be granted as a personal allowance. As for admission of natives into the Civil Service by nomination under the new rules, your petitioners need not repeat the considerations, which seven and twenty years ago induced Parliament to throw the Covenanted CivilService of India open to public competition, and they respectfully submit that nothing has since transpired to shew the unsuitability of the present system of competition. If competition is considered necessary in selecting persons for the public service in the United Kingdom, where there are so many salutary

more necessary in this country, where no ... to bear against any question, and where the ... The only reason on which nomination has ... is that it is of great importance to recruit ... with social prestige; but, your petitioners with ... such, not to be the sole door of admis... intellectual attainments and good moral charac... discharge of public duties; and that due stress ... two examinations. The new rules for the ap... to the Civil Service referred to above are not ... aspirations of the people or contribute ... On the other hand, taking them with the ... age for competition for the service in Eng... Government of India as shewn above, it is clear ... leaders Court of Parliament within the last half-... of the country to offices of trust and emo... than it was before—they are practically excluded ... in England, while under the rules under ... accidents of birth and social status than to solid ... your petitioners crave leave to submit, could not be ... natives of India, whose ranks under the bene... are daily increasing. Her Majesty the Queen ... India in 1858, in Her Royal Proclamation, was ... It is our further wish that, so far as may be, all ... duly and impartially admitted to all offices or ... may be qualified by their education, ability and ... duties which your petitioners have set forth above ... which is justly regarded both in England and in ... gracious Sovereign, has been fulfilled in practice ... project a eminently deserving of enquiry. It may ... to whether the time has not arrived for a general ... given to the members of the Covenanted Civil Ser... any other country in the civilized world, aye, for the ... between the Covenanted and Uncovenanted Service, ... service in India on a broad, comprehensive, and ...

TE... EFFECTS OF THE RECENT POLICY OF ... ADMINISTRATION.

... willingly acknowledge the many benefits which have been ... under the direct rule of Her Gracious Majesty the ... solicit the attention of Your Hon'ble House to some ... of the policy, which has of late characterized the admi... instances have recently occurred, in which the ... to exercise his supreme authority in disregard of the ... reasonable minority of the Indian Council, whi... Act of Parliament for the good government of India, ... the Afghan war, the reduction of the import duties ... the Local Cess in Bengal, the Vernacular Press Act, ... Viceroy and Governor General in the same ... Council on the subject of the reduction of the ... exceptional power under which he acted was ... of serious State emergencies, under which ... reasoning, could not justly be included. Your ... Afghan war, its equities and morality because no ... discussed in the United Kingdom as the Parlia... House to consider whether its construc... of the war carried on beyond the Indian frontier ... is consistent with justice to the tax-payers of ...

... the financial policy of the Government ... importance to the country ... such emi... Northbrook after the fullest enquiry and deli... tion of direct taxation as wholly unsuited to ... calculated to produce much hardship and ... to multiply direct taxes to the disappoint...

... be the order of the day unsettling the minds ... vested rights and interests, disturbing their ... tion, and rendering the administration of law ... heretofore. The liberty of the subject has ... the new Criminal Procedure Code, which has in... magistrate, checked appeal by giving the appellate ... punishment in case of failure of appeal, permitted an ... motion of the Crown, and legalized arrest of persons, on ... in all this in a country where true wholesome ... is notoriously weak. Rights solemnly vested in the ... have been invaded by cesses imposed on their ... the good faith of Government thereby shaken. ... appliances to which the people used before to ... their persons and crops from the ravages of wild ... placed under serious restrictions by what is called the ... Act, as announced by the member in charge of the ... re-arms of precision, and to restrain the use of them ... Indian population, who may cherish ill-will towards ... Government, has taken place in Council:

... was also a very material alteration. As introduced, the Bill ... any description without a license. In that form it would ... measure, and in fact, the form which the original Bill ... to an oversight. Under the old law, a difference was ... between proclaimed and unproclaimed districts, and that ... by the new Bill. The Committee had thought it right ... that a district proclaimed for the possession of all arms would ... which was not proclaimed. Licenses would only be required for ...

... between fire-arms of precision and other arms, ... who orderly and the turbulent, those who follow ... plunder or predatory habits. It is true that cer... rules from the operation of the law, but an un... loyal native population of India by including ... body of Europeans, Americans and Eurasians ... exempted. This distinction, your petitioners ... that spirit of equality which is the essence of British ... political and moral aspect of this law, as inter... Notification of Government it has been ... as kukris (bill-hooks), daggers and spears have ... and its practical effects are most serious. ... villages ... wild beasts of the forest, and the restrictions imposed upon the sale, keeping and use of even such inoffensive arms as bill-hooks and spears tend to deprive them of the primary means of self-defence.

In the same, or perhaps worse, spirit the right of free speech has also been seriously clogged by the enactment of the Vernicular Press Act. That retrograde and repressive legislation has, naturally enough, evoked dissatisfaction and discontent through the length and breadth of the land. There was no necessity for it as subsequent events have shewn, and yet it was passed at a single sitting of the Vice-Regal Council, as if the fate of the empire was trembling in the balance, and this law for the repression of the popular voice was alone needed to save it. Well was it said by the Right Hon'ble Mr. Gladstone in your Hon'ble House in reviewing Indian finance last year: "At a period of financial difficulty like the present what could have been more important to us than to know what the people of India thought, not merely in their wisdom, but even in their occasional aberration? But this is the period we have chosen to limit the expression of native sentiment by placing the whole Vernacular Press at the mercy of the Government." The same Right Hon'ble gentleman, in one of his recent election speeches at Midlothian, again made allusion to the Vernacular Press Act in the following terms:

"The Press spoke out the truth, what was the true mind of the people of India; so that while the freedom of the Vernacular Press was recommended in India by all the considerations that recommended it here, there were other considerations besides. We could not get at the mind of the people here by other means than the Press. They could meet and petition—and thank God a certain number of the people could vote (cheers)—but in India their meetings and petitionings were comparatively ineffective while the power of voting was there unknown. The Press was the only means they had of getting at the sentiments of the Indian people, and that wise arrangement, sanctioned by the accumulation of wisdom and experience, had been put an end to, and that freedom was not only taken away at a moment's notice, but without allowing the smallest discussion on the remonstrance of the Duke of Buckingham the Tory Governor of Madras. (Cheers)."

The policy of retrogression and repression, which has of late marked the course of affairs in India, has not been, your petitioners record with sorrow, without its baneful effects upon the general mind. As a sequence of this change in the spirit of British rule in India, the British officers, in not a few instance, have shewn signs of impatience, intolerance, self-assertiveness, and want of sympathy, by no means conducive to the promotion of those cordial relations, which ought to subsist between the rulers and the ruled, and without which there can be no good government in India, and no real progress among the Indian subjects of the British Crown. So all-pervading has been the unfortunate tendency of the policy of repression, that even responsible officers of Government, who are personally kind and sympathetic, do not hesitate to hold forth in Council such language as this in speaking of the spirit in which the country should be governed: "They (advocates of Indian reform) babble about the separation of executive and judicial functions, about local self-government and representation and the like, forgetting that outside the Presidency towns these shibboleths of so-called progress may prove to be mischievous when they cease to be unmeaningless. Whatever may be the future of this country as regards representation in the government, it is absurd to pretend that as yet any such theories hold good. It would be politic and wise to encourage such aspirations, and it seems an ungenerous thing to throw cold water upon ideas with which we, as Englishmen, necessarily sympathise. But if we are to cultivate habits of local self-government among the people, we must proceed by cautious and well considered steps. They must learn to walk before they are allowed to run. They must learn to stand before they are allowed to walk." In what a different spirit did the early British rulers of India approach the great problem of Indian Administration will appear from their recorded opinions. As an example they crave permission to quote the following opinion of Sir Thomas Munro recorded in 1824:

"There is one great question to which we should look in all our arrangements—what is to be the final result on the character of the people? Is it to be raised or is it to be lowered? are we to be satisfied with merely securing our power and protecting the inhabitans, leaving them to sink generally in character lower than at present, or are we to endeavour to raise their character and to render them worthy of filling higher situations in the management of their country and of devising plans for its improvement? It ought undoubtedly to be our aim to raise the minds of the natives and to take care that whenever our connection with India might cease, it did not appear that the only fruit of our dominion there had been to leave the people more abject and less able to govern themselves than when we found them. . . .

"Liberal treatment has always been found the most effectual way of elevating the character of every people and we may be sure that it will produce a similar effect on that of the people of India. The change will no doubt be slow, but that is the very reason why no time should be lost in commencing the work. We should not be discouraged by difficulties; nor because little progress may be made in our own time, abandon the enterprise as hopeless, and charge upon the obstinacy and bigotry of the natives the failure which has been occasioned solely by our own fickleness, in not pursuing steadily the only line of conduct on which any hope of success could reasonably be founded. We should make the same allowances for the Hindoos as for other nations, and consider how slow the progress of improvement has been among the nations of Europe, and through what a long course of barbarous ages they had to pass before they attained their present state. When we compare other countries with England, we usually speak of England as she now is; we scarcely ever think of going back beyond the Reformation, and we are apt to regard every foreign country as ignorant and uncivilised whose state of improvement does not in some degree approximate to our own, even though it should be higher than our own was at no very distant period."

It may startle your Hon'ble House to know that, while eminent statesmen and politicians who have either been connected with India or have paid attention to Indian affairs, take a pride in thinking and urging that the march of intellect and the reawakening of national life under the progressive and vivifying rule of the British for nearly a century and a quarter justly entitle the people of India to a fair and active share in the administration of their own country by associating them in the legislative councils and administrative boards, and are engaged in devising schemes for the accomplishment of that object, there are Indian officers, occupying high position, who would if they could, and who not unfrequently do so far as they can, seek to neutralize the noble spirit in which the direct rule of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen over India was inaugurated, to dash to the ground the high hopes and lofty aspirations fostered by it, and to keep the people perpetually in leading strings. It is because your petitioners deeply feel that the dissemination of this deplorable spirit of repression among the British officers in India would be fraught with danger to the best interests of the country, that they appeal to Your Hon'ble House humbly, respectfully and earnestly for a careful and searching examination of the present condition of things in India.

Your petitioners have endeavoured to shew above, however imperfectly, the necessity of an Enquiry by a Royal Commission or a Parliamentary Committee into the present condition of India, and to indicate the heads, which that Enquiry, among other things, may appropriately include.

Your petitioners accordingly pray that Your Hon'ble House may be pleased to address Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen to appoint a Commission to enquire into and report on the general administration of British India, since the transfer of the government of the country from the East India Company to the Crown, or to devise some other means for obtaining evidence on the subject, both in England and in India with a view to redress and reform hereafter.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 10TH MAY.

WE THINK Babu Kaliprosunno Dey for a copy of the photograph of Sir Louis Cavagnari. It is mounted. The Babu is preparing a biography of the hero of Kabul.

THE INDIAN MEDICAL GAZETTE says that *Beri-beri* has died out in Calcutta as the hot weather advanced. It is feared that it will reappear at the close of next rains, as in the three preceding years; most probably extending its area of prevalence.

THE ARMY COMMISSION recommends the abolition of the Netley Hospital. The *Medical Gazette* defends that institution in the following terms: "The teaching and training which Netley supplies to the young medical officer is both practical and valuable. Nowhere else is the same kind of education to be obtained. It is not only useful as a special school of military hygiene, medicine and surgery, but it offers opportunities of gaining a practical acquaintance with tropical disease which it is of the utmost importance that the Indian medical officer should obtain."

AT A meeting at Dudley, Sir Richard Temple made the following confession of faith. He said that he had been brought up as a Whig of the old school. He believed especially in Lord John Russell and Lord Palmerston, and was sure that the name of Palmerston still lived in the grateful recollection of all Conservatives. He had stuck throughout to the principles in which he was brought up, and he found that these were the principles now advocated by the Conservative party. When he had to consider what party he would join he said to himself, "I will join that party which maintains the principles in which I was educated." He stood before them "as a man who had never changed his opinions upon political affairs during his busy career abroad. He had loved and venerated that England in which he was born, and he was anxious to assist as far as he could in keeping England what she was, simply carrying out from time to time those just and sound improvements which the requirements and progress of the age might demand." But his electors did not unfortunately put much faith in his political faith.

DURING THE official year, ending March last, the total value of the gold imported into India was Rs. 2,05,83,929, and that of the gold exported Rs. 29,98,893, leaving a balance in favour of imports of Rs. 1,75,05,036; while the silver imported amounted to Rs. 9,60,45,019, and that exported to Rs. 1,73,52,586, making the net imports Rs. 7,86,92,433. The total net value of the gold and silver imported during the twelve months was therefore Rs. 9,61,97,469. The value of the silver coined and examined in the Calcutta and Bombay mints during the year was Rs. 10,21,46,055.

THE ECONOMIST says the fact appears now well established that the proportion of the trade carried on directly between India and England is steadily declining. The latest official report on the trade of India with other countries contains figures which support this opinion. Taking the facts as they stand since the opening of the Suez Canal, which was in working order shortly before January 1870, it is found that the trade between the United Kingdom and India has scarcely increased at all in amount during the time referred to, while there has been a considerable increase in the aggregate volume of the trade of the country.

Mr. Edison is still inventing. Having, as he believes, perfected a machine which will cook breakfast, if not dinner, work the domestic sewing machine, and give light in street, hall, and *saloon*, he warns us that he is next about to bestow upon us all sorts of grand alleviations of human miseries. There is to be no more gold lost in the sand washings. A chemical preparation has been prepared which will find and extract gold in the minutest quantities however hidden. Then he has a sextuplex telegraph, by which six messages may be sent along the same wire at the same time. He has a chalk telephone, which he thinks beats the carbon telephone—the latter not greatly esteemed, I find, among practical men. But his greatest wonder of all he calls polyform. It is a measure for the total abolition and utter suppression of neuralgia. Edison used to suffer greatly from this disease, and determined to cure it. He succeeded to a miracle. He succeeded with others. He has become already the neuralgia doctor of his neighbourhood. He hopes to become the friend of the neuralgic everywhere. The polyform is a curious thing. It cured one tramp of rheumatic neuralgia and a number of body wounds in something like a week. In fact, if Edison goes on the doctors will be abolished and we shall only have to turn on one of his machines every morning to get whatever kind of health we most need.

WE HAVE received the following analysis of lectures delivered at the Science Association last week:

LECT. X. SINGING AND SENSITIVE FLAMES.
By Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E.
(*Delivered on the 6th May.*)

In order to make a flame sing or emit a musical sound 1o it must be surrounded with a tube in order to create a draught of sufficient rapidity; 2o it must be placed at a certain height inside of the tube; and 3o its length must be adjusted. Under these conditions the enclosed column of air is set into vibrations by the intermittent escape of the hot and inrush of the surrounding air. By suitably regulating the flame the same tube may be caused to emit several notes. If when the flame is silent, but so circumstanced that it is on the point of singing the proper note to be emitted in the room, the sonorous vibrations on reaching the tube cause the flame to burst into song.

Sensitive flames on gas-jets are those which being on the point of *flaring* owing to excess of pressure are influenced by certain sounds. A tall flame of coal-gas, some 12 or 15 inches high was suddenly reduced to 4 or 5 inches by the sound of a shrill whistle, and it forked out in a peculiar manner. Another very curious flame, produced by igniting coal-gas above a fine wire-gauze, was remarkably obedient to the various vowels, but showed itself particularly sensitive to any hissing noise, such as the letter *s*, being flattened and almost suppressed whenever that letter was pronounced. All these effects are almost identical with the action on the flames of greatly exaggerated pressure.

TUESDAY, 11TH MAY.

A CREST-FALLEN CONSERVATIVE thus writes to the *Madras Mail*:

"Lord Lytton has in other ways largely contributed to the downfall of the Ministry. His interference with the liberty of the vernacular press has been greatly exaggerated, and proportionately resented. Indeed his general flashiness and Bohemian order of cleverness have created a strong feeling of distrust which has certainly not been mitigated by whispered rumours of kissing and curacoa which, whether true or false, have been widely circulated. Pitt drank more port than was good for him; Lord Brougham was not sickened by the smell of cognac; while the Duke of Wellington, like 'bonie Prince Charlie,' was said to 'love a pretty girl as sweet as sugar-candy'; but your Viceroy is neither a Pitt nor a Brougham, and not at all a Wellington. Specks that count for nothing on the broad disc of the sun would blot out a twinkling star altogether, and thus the majority of the British electors will rejoice when the future 'Earl' makes room for Lord Dufferin, or Lord Morley, or even for the Marquis of Lorne."

IT IS stated that Sir James Fergusson, the new Governor of Bombay, owns 22,630 acres of land in Scotland, and that the total rental of the same is £13,335-11-9¼ per annum. The new Viceroy, the Marquis of Ripon, is the owner of 23,125 acres, the annual rental amounting to £32,401.

WE LEARN that the total number of electors on the registers now in force in England and Wales is 2,501,676, of whom 993,658 are in counties, 1,284,877 in boroughs, and 13,141 in universities. Ireland has 231,535 electors, 176,698 being for counties, 57,290 for boroughs, and 3,548 for Dublin University. In Scotland the total number is 305,515, of whom 94,605 are county, 198,883 borough and 11,936 university voters. The general total of electors in the United Kingdom is therefore 3,038,726.

THE FOLLOWING statement, shewing the salaries of Cabinet Ministers and other chief officers of State in the United Kingdom, may interest the reader:

Mr. W. E. Gladstone, First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer,	...	£ 5,000
Lord Selborne, Lord Chancellor	...	10,000
Earl Spencer, President of the Counsel	...	2,000
Duke of Argyll, Privy Seal	...	2,000
Sir W. V. Harcourt. Home Secretary	...	5,000
Earl Granville, Foreign Secretary	...	5,000
Earl Kimberley, Colonial Secretary	...	5,000
Mr. Childers, War Secretary	...	5,000
Marquis of Hartington, Indian Secretary	...	5,000
Earl of Northbrook, Admiralty	...	4,500
Mr. Forster, Chief Secretary, Ireland	...	4,425
Mr. Fawcett, Postmaster General	...	2,500
Mr. Chamberlain, Pres. Board of Trade	...	2,000
Mr. Bright Chan. Duchy Lancaster	...	2,000
Mr. Dodson, Pres. Local Gov. Board	...	2,000
Mr. W. P. Adam, First Commissr. Works	...	2,000
Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Secy., Admiralty	...	2,000
Mr. Mundella, Vice Pres. on Education	...	2,000
Mr. Grant Duff, under Secy., Colonial	...	1,500
Marquis of Lansdowne, Un. Secy. India	...	1,500
Earl Morley, Under Secretary, War	...	1,500
Sir Charles Dilke, Under Secretary, Foreign	...	1,500
Mr. Campbell Bannerman, Finan. Secy., War	..	1,500

THE ELECTION FUND at the disposal of the Reform Club on the late elections amounted, says the *World*, to £260,000; that of the Carlton Club to barely £24,000. To account for this enormous difference it should be remembered that the magnates of the Carlton Club are chiefly connected with the landed or agricultural interest; and what with remission of rent, bad harvests, and farms returned, they were not in a condition to subscribe such large sums as on previous occasions.

A CONTEMPORARY gives the following account of Mr. Bradlaugh, the new Atheist member of the House of Commons:

"In an autobiography with which he favoured the world a few years ago, it is stated that he received his first rudiments of education at schools in Bethnal-Green and in the Hackney Road. His early life resembles very much the commencement of the brilliant career of that eminent "Ruler of the Queen's Navee," Sir Joseph Porter, K.C.B., who tells us that he,

"Served a term
As office-boy to an attorney's firm."

Mr. Bradlaugh also served a term as errandboy to an attorney's firm, but does not seem to have made "such a mark" in the legal profession as Sir Joseph. Although, however, he was not given the post of "a junior clerk," and it was not his to become successively an articled clerk, a junior partner, rich, and afterwards to be sent by a pocket borough into Parliament, Mr. Bradlaugh after leaving the attorney's firm was a wharf clerk and cashier to some coal merchants, and now he has been sent by a Radical borough into Parliament. During the junior clerkship period Mr. Bradlaugh was a Sunday School teacher in a Church of England school, a position he abandoned in 1849 for the profession of secularism. In pursuit of this calling he became widely known, especially in the big commercial towns, as a public lecturer and pamphleteer. At the end of the year 1850, says the *Times*, "he enlisted in the 7th Dragoon Guards, and was appointed orderly-room clerk, but purchased his discharge in 1853. Returning to London, he became clerk to a solicitor and to a building society. He was now an ardent and constant writer on secular subjects, and in 1858 became editor of the *Investigator*, and subsequently projected the *National Reformer*, of which he was joint editor. In 1868 he contested Northampton against the late Right Hon. Charles Gilpin, and again in 1876, but without success. He has since taken an active part in 'the Republican movement,' and his career of late as a lecturer is known to the public. Mr. Bradlaugh has been married, but was left a widower two or three years ago."

MR. LABOUCHERE gives the following account of Mr. Bradlaugh in his paper, *Truth*:

Mr. Bradlaugh is the Radical candidate, and that redoubtable gentleman and I appear together at meetings, and orate morning, noon, and night. I had never heard Mr. Bradlaugh before. He is a very massive man, physically and intellectually and after listening to one or two of his speeches I was not surprised at the influence which he has acquired here. A more effective speaker at electioneering meetings I never came across either in America or in England. After calmly replying in detail to some of the trash that forms the staple of Conservative oratory, he raises his voice until the very walls re-echo with it, and winds up with a fierce appeal to the electors to do their duty. His adherents are thoroughly organised, they have their chosen captains who take the word from him, and transmit it to the rank and file, and I really believe that there is nothing within reason which his army would not do, were he to suggest it. Should he obtain a seat in Parliament, he will make his mark for he knows how to array his facts clearly and lucidly; he is thoroughly up in all their details, and having welded them together he possesses the power of hurling the deductions which he draws from them against his opponents with the weight of a cannon ball.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH MAY.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS Prince Leopold will, it is stated, be made a duke and peer, and will, it is further reported, adopt, with the consent of Her Majesty, the title of Duke of Albany.

AT THE LAST Annual General Meeting of the Oriental Bank Corporation, Sir W. J. W. Baynes, who presided, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the first of the exceptional causes which had prevented their declaring a larger dividend was the realisation of the Chilian Bonds at an unfortunate moment. Had it not been for the loss on that occasion they might have paid 5 per cent. for the year and carried a handsome sum to the reserve. Dr. Mouat moved an amendment receiving and adopting the report, and sanctioning the dividend, "but that, in view of the approaching expiry of the charter of the bank, and of the necessity of carefully considering the action that will then be required for the future constitution and regulation of the bank, it be an instruction to the Board to incorporate in the next balance-sheet detailed and specific information regarding the securities held by the bank, the landed and other property of the corporation, the debts secured by landed and other property, and all other information necessary to place the shareholders in full possession of the actual state of the bank in

every particular." This amendment was ultimately withdrawn, and the report was adopted, the retiring directors and auditors being re-elected.

PROFESSOR Tyndall has been delivering a course of lectures on light and color He made a series of beautiful experiments in order to shew the effect of intermixture. Thus the ordinarily received theory that combination of yellow and blue produces green was shown to be erroneous, the true effect of the combination of those two colours being, as proved to ocular demonstration, white. By the same means the true complementary colours were displayed. Fixing the eye on a white disc until the lecturer counted twenty and the special illumination of the disc was withdrawn, the spectator saw remaining the filmy semblance of the complementary colour, black. Blue left orange, red left green.

A LAUGHABLE story comes from Melton. A gentleman staying in that town made a bet that he would ride his horse upstairs into the drawing room of the house where he was staying and down again. The first part of the task was accomplished in safety; but once in the drawing-room the horse refused to come down, and nothing earthly would move him. So after leaving him there for three days and nights, the side wall had to be taken down, and the animal rescued in a horse-box, which was elevated to his assistance by a steam-crane. This clever and humorous joke cost somewhere about £200.

DISCUSSING the chances of a war between Russia and China, the Russian *Golos* says that the frontier between the two States, though 10,000 versts in length, is only accessible for military operations at two places. One of these extends from Lake Saissan and the Upper Irtysh to the triangle of Kuldja, while the other is the district of the Amoor and that of the Ussuri. As to the triangle of Kuldja, the *Golos* believes the Chinese would find an attack upon it so dangerous that they would not attempt it; and so long as the position is in the hands of Russia it will, if held only by a small force, protect the whole frontier line as far as the Irtysh. Moreover there are now residing in Russian territory in Turkestan several men who, if let loose upon the Chinese, would kindle a flame of insurrection in their newly acquired provinces. Among these are, the son of Yakoob Beg, of Kashgar; Hakim Khan, who only last year surprised the town of Axa and disturbed the whole country; and Payanchu, the brave leader of the Durgans. The Amoor and Ussuri frontier, on the other hand, is far more vulnerable.

THERE WAS a suit in the High Court instituted by the children of the mistress of the late Babu Rajkristo Haldar. Mr. Justice Wilson in his judgment says:

Wilson J.—This suit, as the case was originally put forward in the plaint, asks to have it declared that something like a marriage had taken place between the plaintiffs' mother and Rajkristo.

It secondly asked that the Court should hold that the plaintiffs were the children of Rajkristo by a person in a position equivalent to that of a female slave, and as such to inherit with the legitimate children, and thirdly, for maintenance.

The case comes on for settlement of issues. The case as to the marriage was abandoned, and the issues were settled.

1st. Was Buddenmoney Bossee concubine to Rajkristo Halder?
2nd. Are plaintiffs his children?
3rd. Are they entitled to inherit, and if not?
4th. Have they any right to maintenance?
5th. If so, have they lost such right of maintenance, and to what extent, by any provision made by Rajkristo Holdar in his lifetime?

The Judge came to the conclusion that the plaintiffs have failed to prove that they are the children of Rajkristo, and accordingly dismissed the suit with costs. We hope this case will be a warning to men of Rajkristo's stamp.

THURSDAY, 6TH MAY.

WE HAVE received the following from the Press Commissioner:

Soon after publication in England of the terms of a sentence passed on the children of Yakub Khan late ruler of Yarkand, H. M. Minister at Peking represented to the Tsung li Yamen that whilst disclaiming any right or intention to interfere with the internal affairs of the chinese Empire, the Queen would feel much gratified if the Emperor would mercifully extend to the unfortunates some mitigation of the severity of the sentence.

Though the punishment which had been awarded was entirely in accordance with Chinese law, the Tsung li Yamen, in consideration of the request for mitigation of the sentence having emanated from Her Magesty immediately memorialised the Throne on the subject.

The Marquis Tseng, chinese Ambassador in London, has announced to Lord Salisbury that his August Sovereign has been graciously pleased to commute the sentence of mutilation into one of confinement. Lord Salisbury has expressed to the Marquis Tseng the lively satisfaction with which the Queen has received this announcement.

WE HAVE received the following from Krishnaghur:

Moulvie Mafiuddin, Deputy Magistrate of Krihsnaghur, lately decided a case in a manner which has surprised the public. At a village called Badkalla some six miles from Krishnaghur, a man named Harry Mohun Paramanik kept a patshalla or vernacular school, which received a grant-in-aid from Government. Another *guru* set up a rival pathshalla in the same village, and there were two parties in the village, who supported the two *gurus* and were not very scrupulous as to the means employed to encompass their end. One day Hurry Mohun was assaulted by his new rival, who it was alleged also destroyed or injured his school registers. The aggrieved sought redress from the Magistrate, at this the defendant, it is said, instigated a boy to complain to the Magistrate that he had been severely beaten by Hurry Mohun because he had left his pathshalla and was not willing to return to it. At the instance of the Deputy Inspector of schools an enquiry had been held by a Sub-Inspector of schools, who exculpated Hurry Mohun from the counter-charge brought against him by the boy. The Deputy Magistrate, however, disbelieved the case of Hurry Mohun and the evidence of the Sub-Inspector whom he called a liar in open Court and who when he protested against the insulting expression was subjected to further indignities at the hands of a court peon. The accused Hurry Mohun was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs 25 and annas eight costs. or in default to two weeks rigorous imprisonment. Being unable to pay the fine immediately he was sent to prison and though the fine was paid the next morning he was not released except under the orders of the District Magistrate.

WE ARE sorry to learn from the *Pioneer* that the Hon'ble Mr. Rivers Thompson is compelled by ill-health to take leave for six months. Mr. Thompson has borne the heat of the day in the latter part of Lord Lytton's administration. Who will act for him? We hope he will be a Bengal Civilian.

THE RAJAHS of Bulrampore and Rampore have offered the Government a lakh of rupees each for the benefit of the sick and wounded in the Affghan campaign. We hope there is no suffering among their own tenantry.

A DURBAR was held at Patna for the bestowal of the title of "Maharaja" on Kumar Srepat Sing. The Commissioner, who presided, made the following excellent speech:

Your family, Maharajah, as is well known, is a historical one, and its members distinguished in the history of these provinces.

Your ancestor, the famous Rajah Shitab Ray, was the chief administrator of Behar, and subsequently rendered signal services to the British Government in 1760 when Patna was in a state of siege under the attack of Shah Alum. Rajah Shitab Ray is described as "so distinguishing himself by his bravery as to acquire the highest praise."

He took a conspicuous part in effecting a treaty between Shah Alum and the East India Company. In recognition of these services Lord Clive appointed him Dewan of Behar, and entrusted him with its sole administration which post he held with distinction till 1769.

We read that of all the Natives who had been employed by the English, Shitab Ray had always been held in the highest esteem.

Your respected father, the late Maharajah Mohipat Singh, was on the occasion of the proclamation of the assumption of the title of Empress of India by the Queen invested with the rank of Maharajah, and the Viceroy has been pleased to bestow the same title on yourself and to grant to you the same pension that was enjoyed by your late father. You retain also the distintion of your family in ranking first among the Behar Maharajahs, according to the authorized official list of precedence.

In offering you my personal congratulations on the honors thus conferred upon you by Government in recognition of your own personal merit, and the services rendered by your family I add the cordial wish that you may long enjoy these honors as the worthy representative of a distinquished family

THE INDU-PROKASH puts in a word anent the archæological controversy between Mr. Burgess and Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. We give the following extract from our contemporary's article on the subject:

Mr. Burgess himself is fully sensible we believe, of his own shortcomings, and is discreet enough not to undertake translations of Sanskrit inscriptions which to him are what Greek and Latin are to a Hindu, though a person in the position of an Archæological Surveyor for Western India drawing Rs. 12,000 a year is surely expected to do this work as well. It is not however Mr. Burgess' fault when influential friends like Mr. Gibbs and others amongst the members of the local Government thrust him into an awkward position by forgetting what the true interests of oriental learning require. For to tell the plain truth the post of Archæological Survey in this Presidency ought to have been given to men who have made mark as Sanskrit scholars. The true interests of scholarship would have been best consulted by the appointment of either Prof. Bhandarkur, Mr. Fleet, Mr. Telang or Mr. Pandit, who would have done infinite justice to the office. Mr. Burgess has, however, a very easy task before him. He enjoys the benefit of the best of the seasons in India and England. For half of the year he is in India when the weather is cool, and 'circumambulating' very agreeable and when to get copies of inscriptions through the aid of a Pundit like Mr. Bhugwanlal (whose ignorance of English is another advantage to Mr. Burgess) is a matter of no difficulty. By the time the hot season approaches. Mr. Burgess packs up bag and baggage for England in the bracing atmosphere of which, aided by a number of friends, he carries on the delightful work of editing Sanskrit inscriptions. What can be more congenial to one's literary tastes and habits? The India office under whose nose the work is being carried on considers it is doing unspeakable service to oriental learning by patronising Mr. Burgess. Meanwhile the work of editing the *Indian Antiquary* goes on through the zeal of scholars who are its contributors. The credit of it all, however, goes to Mr. Burgess. Is it not a heinous crime on the part of Dr. Rajendralal Mitra to venture to disturb the equanimity of this oriental scholar and paleontologist, the favored savant of the Bombay Government, and the friend of Mr. Fergusson? Let the Bengali scholar remember that his pulling Mr. Burgess up is not likely to shake the faith of the India office in him. Mr. Fergusson is said to be very powerful there.

Dr. Mitra evidently deserves the thanks of the public for unmasking this sham.

FRIDAY, 14TH MAY.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL. The Malabar Hill Reservoir case of Bombay has ended in a compromise. The contractor having agreed to pay and the Town Council having agreed to accept Rs. 15,000 for the loss incurred by the Municipality there will be no litigation in the matter. The loss incurred by the Municipality was estimated first at Rs. 70,000 but afterwards at Rs. 17,000. Thus the net loss is not much. The thanks of the Bombay public are due to Mr. Mehta for getting up the agitation.

BOTH THE LEADING native papers of Bombay, *Native Opinion* and *Indu-Prokash*, approve of the move made by the British Indian Association to petition Parliament for an enquiry into Indian affairs. After quoting our paragraph on the subject *Native Opinion* says: "We are sure the people on this side of India will not fail to assist in the good work." The *Indu-Prokash* remarks:

"In resolving to ask the new Parliament to institute an enquiry into Indian affairs, the British Indian Association has taken time by the forelock. The party now in power has all along protested against the muddle created by Sir John Strachey in Indian Finance and just at the present moment the feeling is reported to be so strong in London that a prayer from India calling for an enquiry into Indian affairs may safely be expected to have a very wholesome effect.

We might mention that the idea was first suggested in Mr. Fawcett's new book on Indian Finance, and he is now a cabinet minister.

THE BOMBAY REVIEW makes the following just remarks on the new project of purchasing Kashmir:

"Having for ten years or more grossly neglected our duties to the State and people of Kashmir, whilst the very life-blood of the coveted province was being steadily drained by creatures whom the Foreign Office has cherished and almost fawned upon, now were we to step in and mediatise the Prince whom we should have strengthened and upheld? But what a splendid warren for patronage would Kashmir offer! The end justifies the means; and "the actual assumption of administrative responsibilities in Kashmir by the British Government" would send a thrill of joy through the noble army of place-hunters and patrons at Simla and in the Punjab. Probably the new Secretary of State and the coming Viceroy may hold to the Conservative Anglo-Indian view of the matter. If so they will resolve to break up the ring of sanctimonious Dewans who have held the Maharaja so far on the road to ruin, and will give the State a fair chance to reform itself from within. But a necessary step towards the strong honest policy will be to make somebody disgorge a good deal of plunder."

And who is that somebody?

THE INDIAN ANTIQUARY has been criticizing Dr. Rajendralala Mitra's Budh-Gya, and the learned Doctor has reviewed his reviewer in the *Bombay Review* in his usual sledge-hammer style. We regret we have not space for the criticisms *in extenso*, but the following is too rich to be passed over:

My plate XXXIV fig. 2, affords my critics opportunity to indulge in a good many assumptions. The first assumption is that "Buddhist Kinnaras had human busts and birds' wings and feet," and examples are referred to at Bharhat, Mathura, Mahavalipura, and Ajanta. I do not question that such figures do occur in the places named, but I repudiate the idea that they have been designed for Kinnaras and not for Garudas, which General Cunningham takes them to be. I defy my critics to produce a single reliable proof to show that the Buddhist Kinnaras differed from the Brahmamical ones; that any part of their body was bird-like, or that the Bharhat and other figures are of Kinnaras. The second assumption is that the head of the figure is not that of a horse, but that of an *Ass* because "it has the short mane and the long ears" of that animal. The head is less than an inch in size; it is roughly carved on the hardest of stones, granite, by artists who turned only very coarse work, and it has suffered from exposure in an Indian climate for over two thousand years. Under these circumstances the man must be very clever indeed who could unhesitatingly declare the head to be that of an ass, and not of a horse. I was under the impression that the only unfailing characteristic on which naturalists can rely, are naturally erect mane, and tail hairs growing at the end of the tail in the ass, and flowing mane and tail hairs growing up to the root of the tail in the horse. They have always thought the comparative length of the mane and ears unreliable. They may now correct their mistakes. The third assumption is that this assinine female is "Gardhabhi Devi"—a goddess Donkey "whose story is yet unknown." The Hindus reckon three hundred and thirty-three millions of gods and goddesses, but, as yet, their names have not been all recorded, and I do not pretend to know them. Besides as this Lady Donkey is said to be 'unknown' I can say nothing about her. Some very clever Pandit must have informed my critics of this Matrona Optima and she doubtless owes he paternity to a Gardhabha Deva—a Sir Assinus Optimus.

Three cheers for the Assinus Optimus of the *Indian Antiquary*!!!

SATURDAY, 15TH MAY.

WE ARE sorry to observe that some of our vernacular contemporaries are pouring the vials of their wrath upon the devoted head of the editor of the *Shomprokash* for reviving his paper under the conditions imposed. Our contemporary appeals to us for rescue by stating what occurred at the interview which His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor granted him and at which we at the request of our brother were present. We have much pleasure in testifying that the interview was honorable to both parties. His Honor gave Pundit Dwarkanath Vidyabhusun a very kind reception. We cannot give the details of the conversation, but we might mention that His Honor distinctly said that the Government had not the remotest desire to repress freedom of opinion; what they objected to was the diffusion of writings

calculated to breed sedition and ill-will towards Government. His Honor advised him to look into the management of his paper himself and not to leave it in the hands of young men, who did not realize the responsibility of his situation. The Pundit received His Honor's advice with deference and gratitude. Of course he acknowledged his error in inserting the Rawal Pindi letter, but he assured His Honor that such errors will not occur again. He made no abject submission, nor did His Honor want any such humiliation.

BABU J. N. GHOSE has started a novel school, called the Calcutta Book-binding school, in which Hindu boys and girls, widows and orphans will be taught the art of book-binding. His object is to improve the standard of book-binding in this country and also to find a new field of employment for poor boys and girls. We are told that some fallen women have abandoned the paths of vice and taken to this establishment to earn an honest living. We wish the projector every success.

THE INDIAN HERALD of Allahabad is responsible for the following :

Mr. R. B. Chapman, Financial Secretary, goes home on furlough shortly. It is rumoured that pressure was put upon him to induce him to do so, and reports are circulating as to mismanagement of public funds.

Lord Lytton has aimed a Parthian shot at his councillors His Excellency has expressed himself in a strongly worded Minute that the members of the Civil Service with whom his Viceregal experience brought him into contact were anything but gentlemen ; that they were the spurious products of the reprehensible system of cramming, and void of those qualifications necessary for responsible administration. His advisers His Excellency found to be distinguished only for a spirit of obstructiveness. Sir John Strachey was, of course excepted in this stinging criticism, so that it fell to Sir Alexander Arbuthnot as the only other Civilian Member to combat this scathing criticism, and he has accordingly placed on record a strong protest against the Viceroy's condemnation

THE TIMES OF INDIA'S Simla correspondent telegraphs that Admiral Bythesea's appointment has been abolished, and that he leaves for England at the end of June.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of a new Sunday newspaper to be called the *Imperial Chronicle*. The object of the paper is to supply the public with early news, to afford a judicious support to the imperial and local Governments, and to offer fair criticisms upon public measures. The projector has our best wishes.

THERE were 179 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 8th May, of which 22 were from cholera, 54 from fever, 24 from bowel-complaints, 3 from accidents and suicide, 18 from phthisis and asthma, 14 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Eleven children were still-born, 27 died between the ages of 15 days and under and one year, and 27 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. The deaths among non-Asiatics and mixed races were 12.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals : —1. Army Circulars relating to pay, allowances, establishments &c., for 1880. 2 Lalun the Serigaun or the Battle of Paniput.—A legend of Hindustan. By Mirza Moorad Ali Beg. 3 The Bengal Magazine for April and May, 1880, Nos. 93 and 94. 4. The Oriental Miscellany, No. 14 Vol. II. May, 1880. 5. Little-Knowledge Small-Book. Published at Kharabaty, 1880. By Amanutoollah. 6. Supplement to the Paper Consumers' Circular, No. 68, April, 1880. 7. Messrs. John Dickenson & Co's Monthly Price List of Printing Papers, Cards Envelopes &c., for May, 1880. 8. Messrs. Parker & Co.'s Monthly Illustrated Price List of Types, Presses &c., for May 1880. 9. Trojan or the Illiad of Homer in Bengali. By Grishchunder Mookerjea. 10. Kalpana Kusum—or a collection of fugitive poems in Bengali. By Bhoobunmohun Ghose. Part I. 11. Avaga-Bilap or the Lamentation of the Unfortunate—a Poem in Bengali. By Hemchunder Naug. 12. Report of the Court of Small Causes for 1879.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week :

London May 8th.—The Election held to-day at Oxford in consequence of the acceptance of office by Sir W. Vernon Harcourt, resulted in his defeat and the return of the Conservative candidate.

9th.—Mr. Herbert Gladstone has been returned unopposed for Leeds. Colonel Gordon, R. E., has been appointed Private Secretary to the Marquis of Ripon. Lord William Beresford and Lieutenants Muir and Brett. Aides-de-Camp ; Captains Foote and Fitz William, Extra Aides-de-Camp, and Major White, Military Secretary.

10th.—All the Members of the Ministry have been returned unopposed with the exception of Sir W. Harcourt. The Marquis of Ripon starts from London on Thursday next. Mr. Stanhope has refuted the statement made by Mr. Fawcett that the former Government knew of the erroneous estimate before the dissolution of Parliament. Mr. Fawcett has admitted that he erred, and has withdrawn the statement.

11th.—The *Standard* publishes a paragraph stating that it is proposed to despatch a committee of enquiry into the system of administration of the finances of India, Sir Richard Temple is to be a Member. Mr. Gladstone has written a letter to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador regretting his censure of Austria's foreign policy, which was uttered in default of the assurance now received that Austria has no desire to extend her rule in the Balkans.

12th.—The circular note of the British Government issued to the Great Powers, inviting co-operation in the execution of the remaining obligations of the Berlin Treaty, specifies the solution of the Montenegro, Greek, and Armenian questions.

13th.—The anticipated insurrection of the Albanians has taken place, and they have proclaimed their independence. Reinforcements are being sent to Scutari, and the Montenegrin army is concentrated on the frontier. A select committee of the House of Commons has decided that Mr. Bradlaugh can take the oath of allegiance. Captain Richard Kirby Ridgeway, of the Bengal Staff Corps, has received the Victoria Cross.

13th.—In a speech by Lord Hartington yesterday he said that Government, in view of the difficulties it had inherited would be obliged to restrict legislative measures during the remainder of the Session.

14th.—Prince Leopold has gone to Canada. The *Daily News*, in a leading article, announces that Mr. Foster has advised the renewal of coercive measures in Ireland. 25,000 weavers at Blackburn have struck work, and demand five per cent. increase in their wages.

14th.—Lord Ripon started yesterday for India. Beaudesert, one of the favourites entered for the Derby, has been scratched.

15th.—The Queen opened the Indian section of the South Kensington Museum yesterday.

It is stated that the Government do not intend to renew coercive measures in Ireland.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 17, 1880.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY'S ARITHMETIC.

SIR JOHN STRACHEY has never been strong in his arithmetic. In 1870 when he officiated as Finance Minister during the temporary absence of Sir Richard Temple he discovered a mare's nest and proclaimed what he considered the arithmetical blunders of his predecessor. Lord Mayo was so much alarmed by Sir John Strachey's arithmetic that his Lordship consented, though not without great reluctance, to raise the income tax to rupees three and two annas per cent. in the middle of the year. But it was afterward discovered that Sir John Strachey had been frightened by his own shadow. In the same way the arithmetic of his Budget for 1879-80 was at fault. But he was not ashamed of his loose arithmetic. In his Budget speech of February last he said : "I see nothing to be ashamed of in our want of foresight. I do not see how we were to know that there would be a great improvement in the exchange, which would last through nearly the whole year, and which, in spite of an increase in our remittances, would better our position by £760,000 ; that our opium estimate, which we had taken at a higher amount than, with one exception, it had ever been taken at before, would prove, taking both sides of the Account, to be too low by £1,900,000 ; that in consequence of the most favourable season which India has known for many years, the increased prosperity of the people, and other causes, every great branch of the public income would show an increase ; that we should get £450,000 more from Land Revenue, £335,000 more from salt, and so on." Sir Ashley Eden made some withering remarks upon this want of prevision in the Finance Minister. He said : "I congratulate the Government of India on its financial position as it was described in the statement of my Honourable friend Sir J. Strachey, and *I must congratulate the Government almost as much on having at length discovered how good its financial position really has been for some time past.*" The italics are ours. Again, His Honor remarked :

What I have to say is to a great extent in the interests of the local Governments, because I think that we have been placed in a position in which we should not have been placed if a little more foresight and confidence in the elasticity of the revenue of this country had been shown. We have been exposed to a process of what is commonly called *squeezing*, and as a consequence we have had to suspend all progress in administration and public works, for a whole year. If that was all, I should not have so much to say ; but what I do complain of, is that the same process is apparently to be continued for another year when nobody can, I should think, hold that anything of the sort is necessary. In May last the Government was led to take a most alarming view of its position a view which has now been shown not to have been warranted by the facts.

His Honor continued :

So far as we are now told, there was nothing whatever to justify the scare which possessed the Financial Department in May, I am not among those who hold that the scare was not real ; I fully believe that my Honourable friend was suffering from the apprehensions which were then expressed.

And now it has been discovered that Sir John Strachey's Budget for 1880-81 is wrong by four millions sterling ! The defence is curious enough. In the despatch of the Governor General in Council to the Secretary of State it is stated that the estimates were held open to revision till just before the Statement was made, but no correction was suggested in the Military Department, or considered necessary in the Financial Department. If the estimates were held open to revision, why were they not revised before the Budget statement was published, why on the contrary was that statement hurried through the Council ? The despatch says, " no correction was suggested in the Military Department or considered necessary in the Financial Department." What an explanation ! It is admitted that the estimates were held open to revision before the Budget estatement was made up, but the Financial Department did not care to look into them, and so it was not done. The result is a deficit of £4,000,000 ! Far from revising the estimates our arithmetical prodigy doubted whether the Accountant General in the Military Department might not have entered too large an amount in his Regular estimate ! The despatch goes on to say, " before the middle of March, however, we became uneasy at the unexpectedly large demands upon our frontier treasuries ; and not being satisfied with the result of a summary investigation of the causes, we instituted a fresh enquiry into the cost of the war, which has brought to light the fact that the aggregate net disbursements from our treasuries to the Military Department, since the beginning of the operations, have so much exceeded the normal payments to that department as to suggest strong doubts of the correctness of its estimates of the cost of the war." Why was then the Budget hurried through the Council at the end of February ? It was due on the 30th of March, and if Sir John Strachey had waited the usual time, he would have according to his own showing been in a position to present a correct estimate. But he would not and did not wait. Why so ? There were obviously two reasons. The Ministry evidently wanted the Budget early for party purposes, and Sir John Strachey must have put forth his sails early in order to catch the ministerial breeze. If this was really the case, then the best interests of India were sacrificed to the exigencies of party politics in England. But there might be another reason. The members of the Government of India were anxious to fly to Simla, and so they packed up early. They did not care how the finances of the empire went, so long as their own pockets were saved. And this is the penalty which the tax-payers of India have to pay for the celestial aspirations of their Heaven-born rulers. If the Budget had been delayed only a fortnight, the real truth about the war estimates would have been known, but no, our Neros must fiddle, though Rome may burn ! We hope this point will receive the attention of the new Parliament.

Sir Edwin Johnson, our War Minister, as an honest soldier, has thrown himself into the breach for the protection of his colleague, the Finance Minister. He takes the whole responsibility upon himself. With a chivalry worthy of a better cause he says : "I desire to state, without any reserve whatever, that, as Head of the Military Department, I alone am responsible for the estimates, and that I fully accept such responsibility." The reasons which Sir Edwin Johnson assigns for the excess of the war estimates are noteworthy. He says :

First, the purchase of a very great proportion of the transport, instead of hiring it. This recommended itself to the Controller General of Transport and Supply as not only a measure of expediency and improved organisation, but one which, owing to the nature of the service and to the extreme difficulty of hiring, appeared to be an absolute necessity. The outlay under this head has been considerable.

The necessity, as a measure of precaution, when it became evident that the war would not be brought to a close as early as was anticipated for purchasing and transporting six months' supplies to be stored at the front and on all the lines of communication before the hot weather set in.

The enormous increase in the price of grain and other supplies—famine prices, in fact—owing to the unexpected scarcity which prevailed in the Peshawar Rawal Pindi Dis-

tricts, notwithstanding the promise of an abundant harvest which has been fulfilled everywhere else.

A similar and also unexpected increase in the value of stores, such as firewood, forage, &c., purchased in Afghanistan itself.

The necessity for paying increased wages, in addition to half-rations, to all followers north of Jhelam—a necessity which arose partly from the growing dread of service in Afghanistan, and partly from the exteme demand for labor, locally, by the Railway authorities on the line to Rawalpindi.

In addition to what has been already stated, there is also this fact to be taken into consideration, that when it became evident that the occupation would be prolonged through the summer months, and even into autumn, the works necessary for the maintenance of our positions and protection of the troops, thus detained, necessarily far exceeded any charges which had hitherto been incurred, or would under other circumstances have been needed both at Kabul and on the whole line of communications.

A soldier might be excused for not taking note in time of these obvious causes of variation. But the same plea cannot reasonably be made by the Finance Minister. He is paid to look into the causes of increase of expenditure, and if he had given proper attention to them, there would not have been room for such serious blunders. A Chancellor of the Exchequer, who cannot look ahead in such obvious matters as this, deserves no pity.

Sir Edwin Johnson's minute throws a lurid light on the character of the Affghan war. Lord Lawrence had strongly protested against the war on the ground of its expensiveness, apart from its equity or morality. His Lordship showed in unmistakeable terms the difficulties of the situation, and the expensiveness of the operations to be undertaken. And what does Sir Edwin Johnson say? He writes:

In short, in such operations as those in which we are engaged, their cost increases in a progressive ratio, week by week, with their continuance. For not only are the local resources of a poor country drawn on to a point almost of exhaustion, thereby forcing supplies to be sent from remote bases, but also the transport, which has to be continuously renewed to supply the ordinary casualties, has to be procured and drawn from far distant provinces in India at an ever-increasing cost.

And it was precisely for this reason that matured statesmen like Lord Lawrence had opposed the war. But they were pooh-poohed. The Government of India and the Home Government were determined to play out their cards. And who will now pay the damage—the poor tax-payers of India!

WHO IS THE REAL AUTHOR OF THE AFFGHAN IMBROGLIO ?

THE history of the Second Affghan War has yet to be written, and when it is written, it will doubtless clear up the question as to who is the real author of the Affghan Imbroglio. Hitherto our impression was that it was Lord Salisbury or Lord Beaconsfield, on whom the responsibility rested, but a minute recently recorded by Sir Erskine Perry, the Nestor of the Indian Council, shews that it was Lord Lytton, who dragged the Home Government into the Affghan imbroglio, and started the bogey of the scientific frontier. Sir Erskine Perry has supported his position by such irrefragable proofs that we cannot resist the temptation of reproducing his valuable contribution to the true history of the Affghan war. He says: "The fact is, and it cannot be too distinctly noted, that the idea of an extended frontier emanated not from Government, but from the authorities in India, and this idea, it may be clearly established, has led us into all our present troubles, and, if not distinctly repudiated by the Home Government, may lead us into still greater troubles and perhaps involve our Indian possessions in financial and political ruin." Sir Erskine then goes into evidence. He writes:

Lord Salisbury delivered his celebrated Despatch of February 1876 to Lord Lytton in London, and his Lordship took his seat in Council as Viceroy on 17th April following. A few days after his arrival, he notified to the Amir his intention to send to him his friend Sir Lewis Pelly as Envoy; the Amir demurred to receiving an Envoy on the wellknown Afghan objections, which clearly are that the residence of an English functionary would lead, as in India, to the destruction of his power as an independent Prince. But he consented to send an Agent to meet the Viceroy's Envoy in India. The Agent accordingly appeared at Simla, where the Viceroy himself took part in the conference. It was here that Lord Lytton used the famous illustration of the earthern pipkin (which, by the bye, he borrowed from Sir B. Frere's private letter, whose expressions as well as whose views appear to have deeply impressed themselves on his Lordship), and the conference ended by the Agent being commissioned to intimate to the Amir the terms of a new treaty, a *sine qua non* of which was to be the establishment of English Agents in Affghanistan.

The Agent proceeded from Simla to Kabul and intimated to the Amir the proposals of the Viceroy. The Sirdars at first unanimously rejected the proposal of British Residents. Many durbars (which are quasi Privy Councils) were held, one of them lasting 16 hours, but ultimately Lord Lytton's Native Agent seems to have talked over the Amir, and he gave his consent to the proposal.

The conference and discussion on Lord Lytton's proposed treaty accordingly took place at Peshawar, but was broken off by the Viceroy, although it had been reported to His Lordship that the Amir was prepared to accept eventually all the conditions of the British Government and Lord Lytton's Native Agent was recalled from Cabul.

But during the period when all these discussions between the Indian Government and the Amir were proceeding, at Simla, at Cabul, and at Peshawar, Lord Lytton was maturing another scheme, the principle of which had been already sanctioned by the Home Government, for the better administration of the North Western frontier, a line extending for 1,100 miles from Peshawar to Karachi. In the course of the Viceroy's inquiries, his Military Secretary Colonel Colley (an able Officer from the Staff College at Sandhurst) laid a paper before him, denouncing the existing mountain frontier as an extremely bad one, and maintaining that, according to modern notions of Military science, India could only be safely defended against an enemy advancing from the west by the British occupation of the whole mountain mass of Affghanistan, that is, by securing the western passess leading into the valley of the Oxus, as well as those debouching on India. Similar views to these had been propounded in India 50 years ago by a frontier officer, General Jacob, and have been reiterated by other soldiers and eminent men, such as Sir H. Green, Sir Henry Rawlinson and Sir B. Frere. But after repeated investigations into the whole question by the highest Military authorities in India, these proposals had been unanimously rejected by successive Governments. The Blue Books giving the proceedings of Lord Canning's Government in 1857, and especially of Lord Lawrence's Government in 1867 afford the fullest information on the subject and the papers of Lord Lawrence, Major General Durand, Sir Henry Norman, and the late Lord Sandhurst exhaust the subject on the side of the impolicy of extending our frontier. Lord Lytton, however, adopted the views of Colonel Colley.

Now on these two grave subjects, which were maturing simultaneously in India, only one of them came to the notice of the Council of India. The discussions which were taking place between the Viceroy and the Amir in 1876 and the early part of 1877 were not reported home till the 10th May 1877, and then only in the Secret Department. But the views of Lord Lytton as to the reorganization of the North West frontier were necessarily laid before Council, and the despatch from India, 17th May 1877, and other Despatches of Lord Lytton, disclosed to the Council of India the views of Lord Lytton as to Affghanistan. Contemporaneously with the above-mentioned Despatch, another arrived in England from the Viceroy, dated 23rd March 1877 announcing a new treaty with the Khan of Khelat, by which the occupation of Quetta by British troops was secured. These Despatches and the other referred to caused *great alarm* in Council, the Members of which with the exception of one or two voices, unanimously deprecated any extension of the frontier. They pointed out that the occupation of Quetta was the first step which had been perseveringly urged for forty years, as the indispensable preliminary to a successful aggressive policy, and they dwelt mainly on the consideration that, if once the frontier line is extended into the mass of mountains west of the Indus, it will be impossible to avoid the necessity sooner or later of annexing the whole Affghanistan.

Lord Salisbury deemed these fears groundless, though he entirely concurred in the deprecation of an extended frontier line, and he justly remarked that whatever the views of the Government of India might be, they were only a subordinate Government, and that the Home Government was quite strong enough to restrain any inclinations of a too belicose character, even if they existed.

The two Despatches, however underwent great discussion in Council, and were not replied to for many months after their arrival.

In deference to the views expressed in Council, Lord Salisbury, in approving of the occupation of Quetta, expressly enjoined on the Government of India to carefully abstain from any measures which could be held to indicate on the part of Her Majesty's Government, a resolution permanently to maintain British troops in that town.

In his Despatch on the proposed North Western frontier he expressed himself as follows:—

"Fears have been expressed that administrative modifications of this kind might carry with them a change in the pacific policy which has for many years guided the Indian Government in its dealings with neighbouring tribes and state. It is almost superfluous for me to draw your Excellency's attention to these apprehensions, for they are as much at variance with your own views as they are with the instructions which the Indian Government has uniformly received from the Government of Her Majesty, your Excellency as plainly perceives as Her Majesty's Government that a policy of conquest on your North West frontier would lead to no advantage which would in any degree counteract the certain financial and political embarrassment it would cause. The changes now under consideration have no such object. They are measures of defence and security, not of aggression, they will operate as a *guarantee for the maintenance of existing territorial limits.*" The Council was entirely satisfied with this emphatic declaration of policy, but it is submitted that the above references and these quotations completely make out my point, that the idea of an improved military frontier emanated not from Her Majesty's Government but from the authorities in India.

The extract is long, but it will amply repay perusal. It proves to demonstration that the idea of the scientific frontier emanated not from the Home Government but from Lord Lytton, or from rather his ambitious Military Secretary, Sir George Colley. Sir Erskine Perry has done a service to the cause of truth by marshalling the documentary evidence in support of his statement. We wish the fact to be clearly understood because there had been much misunderstanding about it. It was generally believed that Lord Lytton had proved a pliant tool in the hands of Lords Salisbury and Beaconsfield, but it is now clear that it was he who had carried his august masters by the nose. We will recur to Sir Erskine Perry's minute in our next.

THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON ON INDIA.

OUR readers cannot but feel curious to know the views of the new Secretary of State regarding India. In his election speeches he gave his opinion on two important Indian questions viz. the Affghan War and the Cotton Duties. With regard to the first His Lordship said:

"I am accused of desiring to recall our troops from Afghanistan to leave every thing there in confusion. I have never said so. All I say is that the desire of a Liberal Government would be that which was the desire of the Conservative Government itself if it had had the courage to avow it. * * I entirely admit that it would not be worthy of English honour or of the English name if we were to leave Afghanistan in its present condition. Having created the present state of things in Afghanistan, having reduced that country to perfect anarchy, having deprived it of its Government, having deprived it of all the elements which existed for the purpose of keeping order, we could not retire and leave this anarchy and confusion; and it will be necessary for any Government, whatever it may be, which succeeds the present one, to restore order in the country before it retires behind its scientific frontier."

The truth is—the new Government cannot at once retreat from the position bequeathed by their predecessors. We do not believe that they have matured their Affghan policy, but do what they may, they cannot at once undo the mischief perpetrated by the Conservatives. They must wait and watch. We only hope that they will not enmesh us more and more.

The telegraphic report of the Marquis of Hartington's utterances on the cotton question had, we must confess, filled us with alarm, but the full report of his speech has happily removed our apprehension. He is certainly not so bad as the Marquis of Salisbury. It cannot of course be expected that either the Conservatives or the Liberals would throw Manchester overboard. Some of the staunchest supporters of the Liberal Ministry are Manchester's men, and they will not lightly quarrel with them. Besides, in an election speech a speaker is not particularly careful, for he then feels no responsibility whatever. Nevertheless Lord Hartington did not commit himself so broadly as Lord Salisbury had done. He was cautious and circumspect. He said: "I entirely agree with him [Mr. Ecroyd, the Conservative candidate] in desiring to see the Indian Import duties abolished in India, which is not a selfgoverned country, but governed in the main by this country. It is in the power of our Government to say at any time that those duties should be repealed. I will not say that those duties ought to be absolutely repealed; all I say is that they ought to be repealed as soon as they can be repealed without retaining any tax which is more injurious to the welfare of the people of India. I believe that these Import duties are injurious to you and to the people of India themselves; but we know that there is a very great difficulty in raising the necessary revenue in India; and it is alleged that these Import duties on certain goods are only imposed for revenue purposes, and not for the purpose of protecting native industry. When I desire to see those duties removed at the first possible moment I would not be a party to repealing them if it could be shown that a tax more repressive and more injurious to the interests of the people was to be retained for the sake of repealing. But there is one way in which they might be very speedily repealed. If the expenditure of India were reduced, if the economical resources of India were developed and the revenue of India thereby improved, there will no longer be any excuse for keeping up this bad tax for revenue purposes. * * * * If the accounts we have received from India of the last Budget are correct, there can be little doubt that the Indian Import duties may be repealed almost immediately. But I believe that in some quarters there is some doubt thrown upon the accuracy of the figures shewn in the Budget. I do not presume to be sufficiently acquainted with the details of Indian finance to give an opinion on the point, but, whether the Indian finances will or will not bear the remission of those duties now, there can be no doubt that by reverting to a prudent, peaceful and economic policy, the finances ought, within a very short time, to be able to do without those obnoxious Import duties." This is far

from saying that the cotton duties must be abolished *nolens volens*. His Lordship admitted that the cotton duties were levied for fiscal purposes, and that they could not be repealed unless the state of the finances would permit such a measure. He went to the length of saying that the cotton duties ought not to be absolutely repealed; all that he could or did say was that they ought to be repealed as soon as they can be repealed without retaining any tax which is more injurious to the welfare of the people of India. He advocated economical administration, and said that if expenditure were reduced and the economical resources of the country developed, then there would be no excuse for the continuance of the impost for revenue purposes. We think this was a perfectly reasonable line of argument for an English statesman, whose duty it was to reconcile English with Indian interests. The Marquis was in a difficult position. He was opposing a Conservative candidate, who had thrown out the bait of the remission or repeal of the cotton duties. He could not very well keep reticent on the occasion. And in speaking out he could not but humour Manchester. But he was evidently sensible of the responsibility, which would devolve upon him or his party on accession to power. And what he said under the circumstances was in our humble opinion perfectly reasonable and fair. As Indians we can not of course subscribe to the opinion expressed by his Lordship that the cotton duties were injurious to the interests of India; the duties do not press upon the people in any way; as we have repeatedly shewn these duties are not paid by the poorer classes, for the coarse fabrics, which they chiefly use, are not subject to this impost. It is the finer goods, on which the duty is levied and it is the rich who consume these goods. Why should not the rich pay for the luxuries they use? The Government of India urged the remission of the duties on the ground that it would benefit the poor, but practically it would benefit the rich alone. As for injury to the interests of England this is more imaginary than real. The duties cannot now be said to be in any sense protective; and if they are not so how can they be said to injure the manufacturing interests of England? Of course so long as there will be competition in India, the English manufactures will suffer, but surely neither the Conservatives nor the Liberals will have the hardihood to suppress Indian mills. It should be borne in mind that it was the Manchester mills, which originally destroyed the handlooms of India. Thousands and hundreds of thousand of weavers have been reduced to utter destitution. No one shed tears over their miseries. Manchester should not complain, if she should now find Indian competition rather inconvenient. Be that as it might, we think we need not fear that the Liberal Ministry will at once repeal the cotton duties.

THE JHANSI ZEMINDARS' RELIEF BILL.

IN our previous articles on this subject, we trust we showed conclusively that the indebtedness of the landholders of Jhansi, to remedy which is the object of the Bill under notice, has been the direct result of the rigid and scientific revenue system, which was introduced into the province on its annexation by Lord Dalhousie a little more than a quarter of a century ago. Under Native rule the Government demand in the province varied with the nature of the season and the actual outturn of the year; and this system still prevails in the adjoining Native States. But such a barbarous and unscientific mode of collecting the dues of the State could not, of course, be expected to find favour with the enlightened British nation. So when Jhansi was iniquitously incorporated with the Indian Empire the scientific revenue system was at once introduced, and the Government demand was unalterably fixed for a certain number of years, without any respect to the variation of season. The proprietory classes of the province cannot fairly be held responsible for the indebtedness which overwhelms them. The State exacted its dues from them with clockwork regularity, without the slightest respect to the variation of the season; and they were, therefore, bound to get into debt. The State has thus been the primary cause of their difficulties. Mr. Bazett Colvin, the author of the Bill under notice, when Commissioner of Jhansi in 1873 estimated that, at least, half the existing debts, were directly due to the famine of 1868. The *Pioneer* rightly says:—"More than one wealthy Marwari firm dates its origin and fortunes from 1868, for everybody had to borrow, and a starving man is not particular as to what he puts his signature." It is clear the landowners of Jhansi cannot be blamed for having fallen into debt; and they need not be accused of extravagance to account for their hopeless indebtedness. Well does Mr. Bazett Colvin remark that they are in the position of being "between the upper and the nether mill-stone." The state above them mercilessly exacted its dues from them in good and bad years alike; the cultivators below them could not be induced to pay their rents in bad years.

Let us see what remedy the Government proposes to apply to the serious evil from which the proprietory classes of Jhansi have been suffering, in consequence of its own short-sighted rapacity. Mr. Bazett Colvin's Bill generally adopts the principles which have in recent years been applied to encumbered estates in other parts of the Empire. The Bill is to be applicable in the first instance only to Zemindars owning land in the district of Jhansi but power is given to the Local Government to extend it to Zemindars owning land in the other districts of the Division. When the Act is applied to the Zemindars of any local area the Local Government shall appoint for such area a manager of Encumbered Estates, and may appoint, if necessary, Assistant Managers. Indebted Zemindars in any local area to which the Act becomes applicable may apply to obtain benefit of the Act; but the application is to be made to the Deputy Commissioner of the district on behalf of the Zemindar, when the latter's immoveable property has been attached in execution of a decree of a civil court. When any such application is made the Commissioner shall direct an enquiry to be made by the Manager into the nature and amount of the Zemindar's debts and liabilities as also of his property, moveable and immoveable. The Manager, after making the enquiry shall submit a report to the Commissioner of the Division, who, on receipt of such report, may direct a further enquiry, or dismiss the application or direct the Manager to manage the immoveable property of the Zemindar, and arrange for the liquidation of his debts and liabilities. The order of management passed by the Commissioner shall extend to all immoveable property of the Zemindar and to all debts and liabilities to which he is subject; and on the commencement of the management all proceedings then pending in any court in respect of the Zemindar's debts and liabilities shall be suspended and no fresh proceedings shall be instituted. And so long as the management continues, the Zemindar shall be incompetent to enter into any contract involving him in pecuniary liability or to alienate in any way the property under management or to grant valid receipts for the rents and profits accruing therefrom. The Manager is to receive rents and profits due in respect of the property under his management, and he is to fix the rate at which the land may be held by the Zemindar. From the rents and profits of the property under his management, the Manager shall first defray the costs of management; the Government-revenue and other demands of the State; the rent of any lands held by the Zemindar on lease; the allowance for the maintenance of the Zemindar and his family; and the cost of such improvements of the property under management which the Manager thinks necessary. If any residue is left, it shall be applied to the liquidation of the Zemindar's debts and liabilities. The Manager in assuming management of the property is to call upon all persons having claims against the Zemindar of the property under management to submit their claims to him, with full particulars. If the amount of any claim is disputed, the Manager is empowered to enquire into the history and merits of such claim from the commencement of the transaction. Even when the amount of claim is admitted the Manager may make such an enquiry, if he thinks fit. When the Manager enquires into the history and merits of a claim, he shall be competent to set aside any agreement between the parties and any settlement of account that may have been made. The Manager is to determine the rate of interest to be allowed, and to render debts and liabilities according to the order in which they shall be paid. When the total amount of the debts and liabilities has been finally determined, the Manager shall prepare a scheme of liquidation and submit it to the Commissioner. On the liquidation scheme being sanctioned by the Commissioner, all proceedings against the Zemindar suspended previously shall be for ever barred. The Manager may, with the consent of the Commissioner, raise money by mortgaging or selling the whole or any part of the property under his management. When the debts mentioned in the liquidation-scheme have been discharged, the management shall terminate and the property shall be restored to the Zemindar.

These are the main provisions of the Jhansi zemindars' Relief Bill. It will be seen that the Manager appointed by the Government will have authority to enquire into the history and merits of every disputed or undisputed claim from the commencement of transactions between the parties, to cut down interest according to his sweet pleasure, and to make up accounts of receipts and payments just as he thinks fit. The Manager of Encumbered Estates in Jhansi will thus exercise vast powers, and the creditors of some 2,000 indebted zemindars whose debts aggregate eighteen lakhs of rupees, will be absolutely at his mercy. What guarantee is there, we ask, that in such circumstances even-handed justice will be done to the unfortunate creditors? These poor people cannot be blamed for having made advances to the landholders of Jhansi. If any one has benefited by their having made advances to the Jhansi zemindars, it is the State. The Government demand in that province could not have been realized but for the loans which the proprietory classes raised on the mortgage of their villages. This fact should be carefully borne in mind in framing a scheme for the relief of the Jhansi zemindars. When the Bill under notice becomes law, as it surely will, the jurisdiction of the ordinary Civil Courts in the part of the country to which it may be applied will cease; and an executive tribunal will be charged with the difficult and onerous task of doing justice between the indebted zemindar and his creditors. It must not be forgotten that the Executive Government has been the primary cause of the difficulties of the proprietory classes of Jhansi; after having, by its short-sighted rapacity, plunged the Zemindars into hopeless indebtedness, it has now taken pity on them, and come forward to rescue them from the hands of their Shylocks. In these circumstances, can it be expected that the specially constituted executive tribunals will mete out even-handed justice to the creditors? It is all very well to say that the proceedings of the Manager will be closely watched by the Commissioner and the Board of Revenue; but the Commissioner and the Board represent the Executive Government, at whose hands the creditor has no hopes of receiving fair treatment. The only safe-guard of the creditors lies in the good-faith of the Executive Government and the officers who may be appointed as managers under the law. We, for one, do not attach much importance to this safe-guard, for painful experience has taught us that executive authorities are often influenced by considerations of expediency rather than by those of justice and fair play. We cannot but pity the unfortunate creditors of the 2,000 indebted landholders of Jhansi, who, on the passing of Mr. Bazett Colvin's Bill into law, will be thrown on the tender mercies of the executive authorities. There is one provision in the Bill against which we cannot protest too strongly. The manager of encumbered estates will have power to make such improvements of the property placed under his management as he thinks necessary, and the cost of these improvements will be a first charge on the income of the estate. Now, all sorts of agricultural experiments of doubtful value may be tried by the Manager of encumbered estates under the plea of effecting improvements in the

property *under his* charge; and the poor creditor may be kept long in waiting. The law does not expressly authorise managers of estates under the Court of Wards to make improvements at the expense of wards. Why should then, the manager of the Jhansi encumbered estates have power to make improvements of the property placed under his management at the cost of embarrassed proprietors? If a disciple of Mr. Buck's were appointed manager under Mr. Bazett Colvin's Bill—and the contingency is by no means unlikely—all the profits of the encumbered estates may be swallowed up by agricultural experiments, and nothing may be left for the unfortunate creditors.

Mr. Bazett Colvins' Bill unlike other encumbered Estates Acts, does not stop at freeing the proprietor from debt and his property from encumbrances. It goes much farther, and provides that his immoveable property on being restored to him by the manager after the discharge of his debts and liabilities, shall be absolutely inalienable. Section 34 says that the right of a Zemindar who has been restored to the possession of his property "shall not be transferred or encumbered by grant, will, sale, mortgage or in any way whatsoever, or be attached or sold in execution of the decree of any court, but shall be heritable and shall devolve in accordance with the laws for the time being in force regulating the inheritance to immoveable property." With the right of transfer taken away from them, the Jhansi landholders will necessarily be unable to raise loans on the mortgage of their villages and plunge into debt.. But the question arises—Will not the revenue administration of Jhansi, in that case, come, to a dead-lock? The Jhansi Zemindar *must* borrow to meet his obligations to the State, so long as the Government does not adopt the barbarous and unscientific system of varying its demand for each year with reference to the outturn of that year. If the present system of fixing the demand for a term of years without respect to the variations of season be continued, at the same time the zemindars be deprived of the power of mortgaging and alienating their rights, the land revenue must remain unrealized in Jhansi. And if the Government should alter the revenue-system of the province so as to vary its demand for each year with reference to the outturn of that year, the necessity of restricting the zemindars's rights will not arise. The proprietory classes of Jhansi will give up borrowing and cease to embarrass the Government with their financial difficulties, if the system of varying the revenue demand for each year with reference to the outturn of that year, which was in vogue under barbarous native rule, and which still prevails in the adjoining Native States, be adopted by our enlightened British rulers.

THE RAJPUT STATES IN 1878-79.

MAJOR BRADFORD'S Report on the political administration of the Rajputana States for 1878-79 demands more than a passing notice, even though it does not record any stirring or important events. During the period under review the peace of Rajputana remained undisturbed. Major Bradford rightly remarks that a narrative of uneventful incidents of administration must of necessity lack interest for the general public. But the position of the feudatory States in India is peculiar, and we cannot but watch with interest whatever passes therein. The report before us prominently mentions the fact that the Chiefs of Rajputana, in a loyal spirit, offered assistance to the British Government on the occasion of the despatch of the Malta expedition in the summer of 1878 and of the outbreak of hostilities with the Amir of Cabul in the autumn of that year. Major Bradford justly observes:—"When it is remembered that in foreign States particularly a war with Cabul had always been regarded as an event which would certainly try the strength of the British power in India to the utmost, the expression of this feeling of loyalty should not be lightly regarded; and I can conceive nothing more calculated to allay the groundless uneasiness that has at times found expression in the public papers regarding the attitude of Native Chiefs towards the British Government, than this spontaneous desire on the part of Rajputana generally to assist us in what to them must have seemed a time of urgent need." Whatever the faults and shortcomings of the feudatory chiefs may be, their worst enemy dares not question their devoted attachment and loyalty to the Paramount Power. That attachment and loyalty has passed through the fiery ordeal of the Mutiny. No one knows better than the Native princes of India that they have everything to lose and nothing to gain by a change of masters.

The new salt arrangements made with the Chiefs of Rajputana came into force on 1st October 1878. We have more than once explained in these columns what these new salt arrangements are. The chiefs of Rajputana as those of Central India had been made to make over the salt producing tracts in their territories to the British Government; and the removal of the Inland Customs Line has been made the occasion for the imposition of a salt tax of Rs. 2-8-0 per maund on the people in Native States,who had not enjoyed that inestimable blessing before. Major Bradford tells us that the new arrangements worked satisfactorily in Rajputana during the year under report. He, however, remarks: "It was only to be expected that at the outset the new arrangement would press hardly on a population accustomed from time immemorial to a free and unrestricted use of this natural product of the soil; but notwithstanding the high prices which have necessarily followed the introduction of these measures, no outward signs of discontent on this score have been observable." Are we to believe that the people concerned have felt thankful to the British Government for imposing a tax on salt in Native States where it was not taxed before? When Major Bradford admits that the new arrangement would press hardly on the people of Rajputana, it follows that the measure must have created discontent among them. If there have been no outward signs of their discontent, it is simply because they know that it would be useless to contend against *Kismat*. In order that British India may have cheap salt and Sir John Strachey have the satisfaction of giving effect to the "convictions of a life-time," the Native Chiefs of Rajputana and Central India have been compelled to make over, at a considerable sacrifice, to the Paramount Power the salt-producing tracts in their territories; and millions of people have had conferred on them the boon of dearer salt, for which no doubt, they feel immensely grateful to Lord Lytton and his wonderful Finance Minister.

There was a great deal of distress and sickness in many of the Rajputana States during the year under report. In Jeypore, the Maharaja, with his usual liberality, organised measures for the relief of his suffering subjects. We notice that even many destitute immigrants from other States owed their daily subsistence and the means of returning to their homes to the Maharaja's liberality. The mortality from fever in Jeypore was exceptionally high during the last quarter of the year under report. In Ulwar, the outturn of both the autumn and spring crops was below the average, and the number of paupers was so large that it was found necessary to keep open relief camps until the month of November. The sufferings of the people in this State were aggravated by visitations of fever and cholera, which caused a heavy mortality. We are told that what with sickness, starvation, and emigration, Ulwar has lost a tenth of her population. In Kerowlee fever and small-pox were very prevalent; but in Bharatpore the public health was comparatively better. In the Haraotee and Meywar States, the crops were injured in the early part of the season by excessive rainfall and in the later part by drought; and cholera and fever were so widely prevalent for a time that agricultural operations were almost at a stand-still. In Marwar and Bikanir, three-fourths of the crops were destroyed by locusts. Major Bradford observes: "Following on a year of scarcity; the unseasonable rainfall and other calamities which have visited Rajputana have been more severely felt than would otherwise have been the case, and it will take some time for the States to recover their normal condition." We earnestly hope that, in view of the present depressed condition of Rajputana, the Chiefs of that province will not be required to attend any Durbar or to receive the Viceroy, until they have recovered from the effects of two successive bad years immediately following on the visit of the Prince of Wales and the Imperial Assemblage.

Three of the Rajputana States,—*viz.*, Kotah, Jhallawar and Dholepore—have for some time been under the direct superintendence of British officers. During the year under report it was publicly announced in a Durbar that discretion had been given to the Political Superintendent of Kotah to consult the Maharaja on all important matters. Major Bradford records that no harm has resulted from this experiment, but that all parties are grateful for the consideration shown to the Chief. The Major doubts, however whether His Highness will be able to undertake the entire conduct of affairs unaided by a British officer, and he thinks that the concession now made will facilitate the eventual transfer of the administration to Native control. The debts of the Kotah State are being cleared off at the rate of 5 lakhs of rupees per annum. In Jhallawar a summary settlement has been concluded under the superintendence of the Political Superintendent. The liabilities of this State amounted to about 14 lakhs of rupees, of which about 50 per cent has already been paid off. Dholepore suffered greatly during the year under review in consequence of the failure of both the autumn and spring crops caused by a scanty fall of rain. We notice with pleasure that the young chief of Dholepur is "making very satisfactory progress in his education under the tuition of Babu Umachurn Mookerjee." In Oodeypur the expenditure during the period under review exceeded the income—a result which was mainly due to the contemplated visit of the Viceroy to the State. The Maharana, on hearing of His Excellency's intentions, spent vast sums of money in repairing the various palaces at and near the capital. This fact should be carefully noted in the Foreign Office. The income and expenditure of the Jeypore State balanced each other more nearly during the year under report than was the case in the year before. The State expended nearly four lakhs of rupees on useful public works in 1878-79. Nearly 8 lakhs of rupees have been laid out in the Jeypore State on irrigation works, which, we are told, yield, returns varying from 5 to 17 per cent on the outlay. We should very much like to know the nature of these irrigation works. Are they ambitious costly canals or unpretending petty tanks and reservoirs? In Marwar, the finances are in an embarrassed condition, the expenditure exceeding the income. In Bondee, the primitive system of Government still prevails; but Major Bradford says that the Chief of that State,though he has not adopted English ideas of administrative improvements, is universally respected in Rajputana as a just and liberal ruler; and His Highness has made a settlement in his State without the assistance of a single English Official. In Tonk,the condition of the finances is extremely unsatisfactory and occupied a good deal of Major Bradford's attention during the year under report. The debts of the State amount to 9½ lacks of rupees. In Bharatpore nothing deserving of notice occurred during the year under report. As to the Maharaja of Ulwar, who according to Lord Lytton is an excellent specimen of an Indian Eton boy, Major Bradford writes:—"It is somewhat early to pronounce a decided opinion on the manner in which His Highness may be expected to acquit himself in his new position; but it is to be regretted that he has more than once acted arbitrarily on the misrepresentations of interested persons, instead of consulting the Political Agent as to the course he should pursue." Now that so much is being said about the necessity of reducing the armies of the Native States, it is interesting to learn that in Major Bradford's opinion "there is not in the service of any one of them (Rajputana Chiefs) a body of men sufficiently well disciplined and equipped to be able to take the field with British troops."

THE NATIVE ARMIES OF INDIA.

IN our last issue we noticed Sir John Adye's remarkable article in the April number of the

Nineteenth Century on Native armies in India. We shewed how the native gentleman was fostered in the early native regiments. After explaining the principles which guided the English in the primary organisation of their Sepoy battalions, Sir John Adye gives a brief account of the rise and progress of the Native armies of India. The simple and liberal principles which found favour in the early days of British rule were soon abandoned. As Sir John remarks :—"They were pre-destined perhaps to gradual decay, under the influx of English ideas and prejudices. As our dominion extended, the European element increased, and almost insensibly, as the responsibilities became greater and warfare more scientific, it seemed to follow that a larger proportion of English officers should be added to our native battalions. The very same arguments prevailed at that time as are so often put forward now that natives though brave, are liable to panic, and cannot be thoroughly relied upon unless closely associated with Europeans and led by English officers. That they are, as it were, men of inferior races, who must always be watched rather than trusted. The assumption is so easy and so flattering to our pride, that then as now it almost generally received a general consent. The subtle dangers which underlie false principles, the evils which are almost sure to follow the constant assertion of natural superiority of an alien race over those of the country, were only perceived by a few, and their words of warning were little listened to amidst the rapid campaigns by which year after year our conquests in India were completed. But it is well to know that there were statesmen who from the first gave warning of the dangers a-head—who perceived that whilst our native armies were gradually increasing in numbers, they were declined in military virtues, and in devotion to the ruling power and whose opinions are more than ever important in the present day." The Native officers, neither well paid nor trusted and with no prespects of advancement, naturally became apathetic, and were no longer treated with either consideration or respect. Sir John Adye quotes Sir John Malcolm, Sir Thomas Munro and Sir Henry Lawrence to show that the mischief caused by the abandonment of the liberal principles which had guided the original formation of the Sepoy Army, was clearly perceived by those high authorities. Sir Henry Lawrence, writing in 1855, pointed out that the Natives had no outlet for their talents and ambition as in years gone by, and remarkd :—"Those outlets for restlessness and ability are gone; others are closing. It behoves us therefore now more than ever, to give legitimate rewards, and, as far as practicable, employment to the energetic few—to that leaven that is in every lump—that leaven that may secure our Empire, or may disturb, nay, even destroy it." Again :—"legitimate outlets for military energy and ability in all ranks, and among all classes, must be given. The minds of subadars ressaldars, sepoys and sowars, can no more with safety be for ever cramped, trammelled, and restricted, as at present, than can a twenty-foot embankment restrain the Atlantic." Sir John Malcolm wrote in 1826 :—"In the Native army, as it is at present constituted; no native can rise to the enjoyment of any military command. That is, he cannot, unless in extraordinary cases, when the European officers are sick or absent, expect to have under his own orders a body of more than 30 or 40 men." Sir Thomas Munro, writing to the Governor-General of India in 1812, on the degradation of Natives under British rule, observed :—"The natives of the British provinces may without fear pursue their different occupations as traders, meerassidars or husbandmen, and enjoy the fruits of their labours in tranquility; but none of them can aspire to anything beyond this mere animal state of thriving in peace; none of them can look forward to any share in the legislation or civil or military government of their country. * * * * The effect of this state of things is observable in all the British provinces, whose inhabitants are certainly the most abject race in India. No elevation of character can be expected among men who, in the military line, cannot attain to any rank above that of subadar, where they are as much below an ensign as an ensign is below the Commander-in-Chief, and who in the civil line can hope for nothing beyond some petty judicial or revenue office, in which they may by corrupt means make up for their slender salary." The evil effects caused by the abandonment of the liberal principles which had led to the formation of the early Sepoy battalions raised by the English in India developed themselves slowly. "A retrospect of the history of our native armies," remarks Sir John Adye, "clearly proves that, beginning on true principles, we gradually drifted from one error into another, until at last the whole fabric tumbled in our hands, and we had literally to begin almost *de novo* in the reorganisation of our Indian forces."

Sir John Adye next discusses the present constitution of the Native armies of India. He strongly condemns the staff corps system which was adopted in 1861, and rightly observes that the arrangement is a very costly one. He observes that though there has been a slight improvement in the position of the Native officers since the Mutiny, that improvement is not much. After pointing out that no career properly so called is open to Natives of India in the military service, Sir John Adye proceeds :—

> The population of our Indian empire is said to exceed 200 millions, and contains not only numerous princes of high birth and ancient lineage, but great numbers of native gentlemen, who, from their large possessions, high character, and leading position, are deservedly men of influence in a very aristocratic country. The history of India, not only of bygone days, but of our own time, is replete with examples of natives distinguished as soldiers and as military administrators. Although some of the native officers in our army are, as a result of our present arrangements, infirm, apathetic, and useless, still even within the poor and limited sphere which the system affords, there always have been, and still are, many distinguished not only for courage in the field, but for their devotion and loyalty to our service. We have, in short, every reason to be proud of, and to cherish, the fine qualities which continue to flourish, as it were, even in so poor a soil and in such a chilling atmosphere.
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> We know that of all professions, that of a soldier is the one which most attracts the bolder spirits under our rule; and yet we say to them all, that no man, whatever may be his birth, position, talents, experience, or devotion, shall in any case rise in the army beyond the position of a troop or company leader.
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> In the various branches of our civil administration, we have gradually, though somewhat grudgingly, opened our careers for educated native gentlemen; but with the army, in spite of the numerous proofs of the magnificent material lying ready at our hands, notwithstanding the success of our early levies, we appear afraid to develop our resources, and to consider that safety depends in depreciating and dilating, as it were, the strength of the natural forces at our disposal. Not only do we deprive the native officers of all real power; but even with the men, nationalities are mixed up in the same regiment, so as to foster mutual distrust; and we hesitate to arm them with the best weapons for fear, apparently, they should turn them against ourselves. As Sir Henry Lawrence, said, "Where is to be the end of our fears, if we shirk efficiency in dread of our own tools turning on us?" The Hon. Mr. Gibbs, a member of the Bombay Council, writing of the native regiments in 1875, said that "we must pay them well and treat them well, and under such circumstances we must on economical grounds have as few as we can manage with, and these should be as efficient as we can make them. To keep a larger force than is necessary, simply because we keep it at a comparatively low state of efficiency, fearing that to have it in a high state would make it dangerous, is in my humble opinion a blunder of the greatest magnitude, both financially and otherwise." Mr. Gibbs goes on to advocate that native officers should be considered the mainstay of their regiments, and that the men should be armed with the most efficient weapons.
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> Having gained a magnificent empire by our enterprise, we seem of late years to consider that it can only be retained by debasing the natives both the natural leaders and the masses. Frequent complaints are made now-a-days of the ignorance and incompetency of some of our native officers, and this is used as an argument that more English ones are required. How can we expect the native officers to be either courageous, enterprising, or efficient as a body, when we never attempt to teach them their art, or entrust them with high commands? How can we expect the native officers or men to serve us with much zeal or devotion, when they are usually armed with inferior weapons, organized on a policy of distrust, have no chance of attaining to high rank, and when every position of consequence is absorbed by English officers, aliens in language, religion, and race, and who too often rather look down upon their men, and ultimately leave them and retire to England?
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> The difficulties and responsibilities of ruling such an empire as we have gained in India are almost incalculable, but the only chance of success lies in the maintenance of those courageous principles on which it was founded; and its endurance can only rest on the solid foundations of justice and of trust in those over whom we are called upon to rule.
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> In order that our Indian regiments may be rendered really efficient and reliable, it seems to me essential that more liberal arrangements should be made as regards the native officers than those at present in force. Instead of promoting them from the ranks, as is almost invariably the rule at present, native gentlemen of birth and position should be granted commission, and receive some measure of military education. Their pay and allowances should be increased, and in every respect they should receive more consideration than they do now. Then, again, I would advocate that a certain proportion of the regiments should have only three English officers, like the old so-called irregular corps, and thus more scope would be given for the energies and ambition of the native officers. The latter would then begin to lose that disheartening feeling which cramps their energies and deadens their devotion.

The importance of improving the position of the Native commissioned officers of the Native armies of India cannot be overestimated. Lord Napier of Magdala and Lord Northbrook were fully alive to this; but as their efforts in this direction were not seconded by commanding officers of regiments, not much practical good was done. Lord Salisbury, in dealing with the question of the re-organisation of the Native army in 1877, suggested that the attention of the several Commanders-in-Chief be called to the subject—that they be urged to exercise special watchfulness over the native officers and to take every opportunity of directing the attention of commandants of regiments to their position and their duties, and to the importance of giving to their native officers the utmost encouragement, confidence and support. The Marquis of Salisbury further suggested "the selection and appointment of a few native gentlemen of good family, of approved loyalty, and of good education, to hold the position of native commissioned officers with the regular army." The Army Commission has adopted this principle and recommended that promotion to the ranks of native commissioned officers be made by the direct appointment of cadets of good families, who have undergone military education at a military school. The proposed measure is good as far as it goes; but it does not go far enough. We do not see any reason why native gentlemen of good birth and education should not be admitted as regular commissioned officers in the army. There are thousands of active young men belonging to the fighting classes, who are actually pining away for want of employment suited to their position, capacity and aspirations. These men have no scope for their energies and no prospect of satisfying their ambition, save through rebellion. We had hoped that the Army Commission would have dealt with the question of opening the highest ranks in the army,—the highest regimental ranks at all events,—to the native aristocracy and gentry; but that hope has been disappointed.

HOW THE MACHINE WORKS.

HERE is a petty case, which shows clearly how our administrative machinery works. The case is this—a certain Police Jemadar of Howrah, named Boistubchurn Das, was convicted by the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Sirishchunder Vidyaratna, of extorting Rs. 5, and an appeal against his judgment was laid before Mr. J. P. Grant, Sessions Judge of Hooghly. The facts of the case are thus given by the Sessions Judge:

> The following is a history of the case as gathered from the record. Two men Sentahal and Seeboo Koormee jointly occupy a godown on the premises of the Albion Mills at Seebpore, in which they were both employed. These two men, after locking up their godown, slept in the Mills on the night of Saturday the 27th September last. Early next morning, Sunday, Siboo Koorme on going to the godown found the door open, and on examining the godown found that some of his and of Sentahal's property had been stolen therefrom. He immediately informed Sentahal of this and Sentahal, later in the day laid information of the theft before the Police. Sentahal said he did not suspect any one in particular.
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> The investigation by the Police was made by the appellant, Boistubchurn Dass, who held the rank of Head-Constable, or as styled throughout the evidence Jemadar or Bura Jemader. It seems, that this officer, though of this rank, is an uneducated man, unable to read or write, so that it is at once intelligible when he took with him, as is admitted, a Bengali Constable named Bunk Behary Sircar of the rank styled "writer" Constable, meaning a literate man, able to write down informations, transcribe diaries &c. Throughout the evidence in this case he is styled the "Babu Constable," Appellant also took with him one other Constable, an upcountry Mehomedan, named Keramat Sheikh, styled throughout the case the Paharawalla. These three went to the godown in the Mills that Sunday morning, to investigate the theft reported by Sentahal.
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> For some reason they, the appellant among them, or rather foremost among them, suspected or pretended to suspect the man Seeboo Koormee as the thief, though Sentahal had no suspicious, against him and though some of his own (Seboos') property was among that stolen. It is clear on the evidence that after proclaiming this suspicion and accusing Seeboo of the theft, he was taken away by the three Policemen under arrest. Nothing can be better proved than this is :—yet in the report made of the investigation nothing is said of this arrest of Seeboo Koormee or of any suspicion even against him, and as a fact, Seeboo was released soon afterwards. This previous history, the facts of which are indisputable, must be borne in mind in reference to what follows being the immediate subject of the present case.
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> A European Employe of the Mills having observed the man Seeboo being taken off in arrest by the Police officers on the Sunday, next day, through another European employe, of the Mills (the first one cannot speak any native

language) enquired of Seeboo what he had been arrested for and what had happened. The man Seeboo explained that he had been arrested on suspicion of having committed the theft in the godown and had been threatened by the Police officers who arrested him with imprisonment if he did not pay them the sum of five rupees, which he accordingly paid them and was released. The employe first named, Mr. Martin, accordingly wrote to the District Superintendent of Police, informing him of this accusation, and a Police enquiry in the course of which the man (Seeboo) was questioned by the District Superintendent took place, the result of which was that Seeboo was referred by the District Superintendent himself to Magistrate if he, Seeboo, should wish to proceed further in the matter.

Seeboo accordingly did complain to a Magistrate and the result has been this conviction.

The evidence for the prosecution is clear enough, both Mr. Martin and Mr. Goodman (the two employes referred to above) declare that on the very day after the alleged occurrence the man Siboo spoke to them of having had to give 5 rupees to the Policemen who had arrested him in order to obtain his release. The witness Jeetoo shows that Seebu applied to him for five rupees in order thus to pay off the Policemen and this Jeetoo and a man named Doyaram both say they saw Seebu pay this money into the hands of the appellant, at the gate, or just outside the gate of the Mills.

The defence is that Seebu when before the Police had said that he had no witnesses to the payment of the money; and that he had paid it, not to the appellant but to the up country Constable Keramot Sheik and that not at the factory gate but some where in the Seebpore Bazar. The District Superintendent of Police and the Sub-Inspector, who conducted the local enquiry into the charge against the appellant, have been examined to prove this state of things.

After a careful examination of all the evidence, the vernacular portion of which I have had translated into English for this purpose, I have come to the conclusion that while the charge is true, the evidence brought in support of it is, to some extent false. That which is false is, I think the evidence which purports to show that the money was paid to the *appellant's* hands at the mill's gate, and that Jeetoo and Doyaram saw this. The real circumstances I believe to be that this money was paid somewhere just outside the mills Premises (which are close to the Bazar) by the prosecutor to the up country Constable, who had been sent back in company with prosecutor for the purpose; and that prosecutor got the money for this purpose from the man Jeetoo. This had been the prosecutor Seebu's account of the affair from the first; and if the matter when it was thus first brought to the notice of the Police had been properly enquired into I have no doubt that the subsequent distortion of the evidence would not have occurred. The Police proceedings were not judicious. There is nothing in the law to prevent an offence being prosecuted on the sole evidence of the complainant or prosecutor; and therefore I think the District Superintendent was wrong in refusing to proceed against the parties on Seebu's information. The affair was not a Police case; but it is clear the District Superintendent understood his position in the matter, for in his evidece he states that he did not himself undertake a prosecution by complaint before a Magistrate only because Seebu, had said he could not cite witnesses to the act of payment and so told Seebu he might prosecute if he liked. Then, I think the Police were wrong in confining the proof or the test of Seebu's good faith, to the act of payment. They had it before them that Seebu purported to have borrowed the money, (he had said this from the first) from Jeetoo, who could corroborate this much and could also corroborate him and does so, as I believe truthfully as to telling him, Jeetoo, at the time, why it was he, Seebu, wanted the money. Lastly, there is the evidence of Martin and Goodwein that Seebu told them all this directly he was questioned, the very next day. All this formed with Seebu's own evidence and with Martin's evidence as to the manner in which Seebu had been walked off under arrest, a very strong case quite strong enough for the Police Superintendent himself to have initiated and prosecuted, instead of leaving it to Seebu.

It is quite apparent to him that the Police enquiry was made very tenderly as regards the case of the present appellant, against the writer, Constable and especially against the up country Constable (who is sought to be made the scape-goat from the fact that actual payment was made to him alone.) The case was pressed, they were both paraded among others for Seebu's inspection but, he was not so paraded, the Sub-Inspector thinks and reports, that a good case has been made against them but not against appellant. All these are circumstances which I think justify the Deputy Magistrate's remarks, in his judgment as to the evidence for the defence, and I feel the more bound to record this that the Magistrate of the District, while authorizing the Government Pleader to oppose the appeal, has addressed me demi-officially as to the language and the imputations it is supposed to convey of the Subordinate Magistrate's judgment and has asked me to notice it. I consider, however, that the language is justified by the facts; and further, that it is not advisable in the interests of justice for an appellate court to criticize such a matter. The Magistrate is bound to do justice without fear or favor; and is at liberty to pass any comments consistent with the facts, on the evidence before him.

The Sessions Judge accordingly upheld the conviction and dismissed the appeal.

There are three important points involved in the above decision. Firstly, the District Superintendent of Police had so received the case in the first instance as to drive the complainant to the necessity of importing false evidence in support of his complaint. 2ndly, the Police Superintendent had dealt with the Jemadar with a tenderness which provoked the remarks of the Sessions Judge, and thirdly, the Magistrate of the District, while authorising the Government pleader to oppose the appeal, did not hesitate to address a demi-official note to the Sessions Judge, asking him to criticise certain remarks of the Deputy Magistrate against the Police. These three points indicate three important lines of district administration. The lower officers of the Police are notoriously exacting and oppressive. As a rule the poor and ignorant native dares not complain against them, but if in this case the man Shiboo prosecuted the Jemadar, he was, it would appear, encouraged to do so by his European masters. But the District Superintendent of Police not only gave him a cold reception, but practically put him at his wit's end. The Sessions Judge says, "if the matter when it was first brought to the notice of the Police had been properly enquired into, I have no doubt that the subsequent distortion of the evidence could not have occurred." And yet we are told that it is the people, who are prone to false evidence. Our critics will not stoop to see that they are driven to it under the enlightened system of administration under which they live. The second point, we mean the peculiar tenderness shown to the Jemadar at the Police enquiry, is simply incomprehensible. But the worst part of the whole affair was the demi-official note of the Magistrat to the Sessions Judge. While we thank Mr. J. P. Grant for exposing the undue liberty, which the Magistrate had taken with him, we must confess that he ought to have done more than what he has done to signify his displeasure. The Magistrate was clearly guilty of gross contempt of court, for he had no business to influence the Judge one way or another on any point of the judgment by addressing him a demi-official note. If such a liberty had been taken by a District Magistrate or Divisional Commissioner with Sir Barnes Peacock, what would he have done with him? Would he have allowed him to go scot-free?—would he have contented himself with only showing up such a peccant Magistrate in his judgment? Would he not have put him on trial for daring to prejudice a Judge of the Crown? And when Magistrates seek to lay the axe at the root of judicial independence in their Deputies by addressing demi-official notes to Sessions Judges, how can these deputies do justice as Mr. Grant says without "fear or favour?" It is all very well to say as the Sessions Judge of Hooghly remarks that the Magistrate is bound to do justice without fear or favour, but theDeputies depend for their good name, promotion, aye for their continuance in the station upon the "favour" of the District Magistrate; they must therefore fear the huzoor, and when such is the case how can they do justiee "without fear or favour" in matters in which the Police and Magistrate have a zid? This is we fear the state of things throughout the country, more or less, and we cannot but deeply regret that even such a strong minded Governor as Sir Ashley Eden, who knows exactly where the shoe pinches, cannot root out the evil.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE UNDERSTAND that Mr. Souttar of the Calcutta Tramway Company has come out with men and materials, and has already commenced operations on the Chitpore Road.

THE LONDON STANDARD states that it is proposed to despatch a Committee of Enquiry into the system of the administration of the finances of India, and that Sir Richard Temple will be a member of it. This we submit will not be sufficient. There ought to be, as the British Indian Association has prayed, a Commission of Enquiry into the general administration of India. No Finance Commission will be able to perform its work satisfactorily, if it is not permitted to go into the whole question, and that question embraces the general administration of the country. Properly speaking every financial question involves some administrative problem, and an enquiry into the one will necessarily lead to an enquiry into the other. It is, therefore, necessary that the whole range of Indian administration under the Crown should be investigated and reviewed by a Commission. We do not think the appointment of Sir Richard Temple to the Commission is well judged. It should be remembered that Sir Richard was himself Finance Minister, and as a member of the Finance Commission he will be practically called upon to sit in judgment upon himself. This would be neither fair to himself nor to the country. Why should not one or two native gentlemen be also associated with this Commission?

SOME TIME AGO we were smartly taken to task by one of our contemporaries for having stated that in some instances the Vice-Chairman of the Suburban Municipality had reserved cases for decision by himself as an Honorary Magistrate. An example of the accuracy of our remark has just been brought to our notice. We hear that the Sealdah Bench of Magistrates has lately called the attention of the District Magistrate to a case which the Vice-Chairman, at his own discretion, had transferred from the Sealdah Court in whose jurisdiction it arose, to his own at Alipore. Under the law the power of transferring cases from one subordinate jurisdiction to another rests with the District Magistrate, and its exercise by a municipal officer appears to be highly improper. It remains to be seen how the Magistrate disposes of the reference under notice.

SPECULATION is rife as to the successor of the late Mr. J. B. Roberts as Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery. It is said that the appointment will be given to a Covenanted Civilian. It is true that this office was formerly held by a Covenanted officer, but that is no reason that it should be always held by such an officer. We had once suggested that the offices of the Collector of Calcutta and the Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery might well be amalgamated and thus a considerable saving effected. If this is not feasible, why not reduce the salary of the office to Rs. 1000 per month? A good uncovenanted officer can be easily found for this respectable salary.

WE PUBLISH in a supplement the petition of the British Indian Association to Parliament praying for an enquiry into Indian affairs. It has we understand been circulated to the different representative Associations in the country with a request that they may either adopt this petition or forward a similar representation to Parliament. We hope the whole country will make a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether. The petition is rather long, but we ought to remember that Indian petitioners labour under a peculiar disadvantage. They have not only to submit a prayer but also to adduce arguments in support of it; in case of petitions from residents of England the latter task is generally performed by the M.P. presenting the petition, but an exhaustive statement cannot be expected from the member who presents an Indian petition to Parliament. This is the reason why Indian petitions are necessarily long.

AT THE public meeting convened by the Indian Association at the Town Hall on Wednesday last the following resolutions were carried:

Moved by Babu Amarendranath Chatterjea and seconded by Babu Surendranath Banerjea:

That this meeting desires to place on record its heart-felt satisfaction and thankfulness at the result of the recent General Election in England which has ended in the overthrow of a Ministry whose Indian policy has been associated with measures of a repressive and retrograde nature opposed to the traditions of British rule, and to the enlightened statesmanship which has marked the course of English administration in the East.

Moved by Mr. F. F. Wyman and seconded by Babu Kallychurn Banerjea:

"That this meeting bearing in mind the many declarations of the illustrious leaders of the Liberal party now appeal to them for justice to India, and for the repeal of the repressive measures and the removal of the grievances that affect the people of this country, and in that view this meeting adopts the following Memorial to Parliament."

The petition contains the following prayers:

"*First*—That the Arms Act and the Vernacular Press Act be repealed."

"*Secondly*,—That the cost of the Afghan War be equitably apportioned between England and India."

"*Thirdly*,—That the maximum limit of age for admission to the Open Competitive Examination for the Civil Service of India, be raised to 22 years.

Fourthly,—That the Open Competitive Examination for the Civil Service of India, be held simultaneously with that in London in some centre or centres where definite proportion of appointments, such as may be determined upon by your Honourable House may be competed for year after year."

While the people of this country do certainly rejoice at the downfall of the Conservative Ministry, it may be fairly open to question whether it is wise for us as a subject nation, who must be governed by turn by the political party in power for the time being, to identify ourselves with any such party. Be that as it may, we are glad to notice the revival of political life among our countrymen. Knock! knock! knock!—and the door shall be opened unto you!

A NEW LOAN is about to be opened. We have received the following telegram from the Press Commissioner on the subject:

Simla May, 13th.—In consequence of the increased cost of the war in Afghanistan as now estimated, the Governor General in Council has determined to borrow 313 lakhs of rupees being the amount required for the construction of productive public works in 1880-81; the war will be part of the four-and-a-half per cent. Transfer loan of 1879. The formal notification will be published at Simla and in London to-morrow, Friday, the 14th May, and has been posted to-day. Its terms are substantially indentical with those of the notification of the 19th March 1879. Tenders for the new loan will be opened on the 14th June. It is payable in four instalments, namely, one-fourth on or before 25th June, 26th July, 27th August and 13th September respectively. The amount of the loan is that of the grant for the construction of productive public works in 1880-81, less rupees eighteen lakhs and twenty thousand, regranted from last year as explained in para 30 of the financial statement.

We are afraid that this amount will not be sufficient unless it is intended to supplement this loan with a loan in England. We think it would be well if the total amount of the loan to be raised were at once disclosed and thus the public taken into confidence.

THE AFFGHAN POLICY of the Liberal Government seems to be maturing itself. The occupation of Kandahar by our troops has been given up and its sovereignty has been conferred on Sirdar Shere Ali Khan. We transcribe the following telegram from the *Englishman* on the subject:

Allahabad, May 13th.—Kandahar, May 11th.—The Viceroy's letter, conferring the sovereignty of Kandahar and title of Wali on Sirdar Shere Ali Khan, was this morning formally presented to him by Colonel St. John, with the gifts, the non-arrival of which has hitherto delayed the presentation of the letter. The ceremony took place at the Wali's house in the city, the palace in the citadel being occupied by us as an arsenal, and was attended by Generals Primrose and Brooke. The principal officers of the force, the chief Mulahs, merchants and other influential townspeople were present, with the members of the Wali's own family, and there was a large concourse of tribal Chiefs and Maliks. A guard of honor of the 66th regiment was drawn up with the band and colors in the courtyard. After presenting the letter, part of which was read aloud, Colonel St. John, in answer to a question, stated that, though not mentioned in the Viceroy's letter, it was intended that the Wali should have the right of having the Khuthbah read and money coined in his own name. He then made a brief speech pointing out to the people the great advantage the protection of England and the restoration of Kandahar to its former independence had brought, and would hereafter bring, on the province adding a hope that, under the just rule of the new Wali, it would grow in wealth and prosperity till it became the envy of the entire Muhammadan world. Both this speech and the reading of the letter elicited expressions of warm approval from the Mulahs and others. The Viceroy's presents were then brought forward consisting of a superb sword and belt, diamond studded, a watch chain, clock, handsome silver plate, and a variety of silk velvets. General Primrose buckled the sword round the Wali's waist, on which the guard of honor presented arms and the battery of artillery in the great square in front of the citadel, fired a salute of 21 guns. The Wali then made a brief speech expressing his profound gratitude to the British Government for its many favors and the unworthiness of himself and his people; after which he received the congratulations of all present, the Mulahs uttering in chorus a Pushtu, prayer, to which the Wali responded in the same language. He lastly declared his intention of marking the auspicious day by the abolition of two imposts the poll-tax on all males not Duranis and the arbitrary calling in, every two or three months, of all copper money at one fourth of its nominal value, to re-issue it next day at the original rate. Both these are specially obnoxious forms of taxation, the former being first imposed by the late Amir, sweetmeats and sherbet being handed round, the proceeding terminated.

The evacuation of Affghansthan is also about to commence. The same paper has received the following telegram from Kabul:

Kabul, May 13th.—Preparations are being made for a move down country. Returns of the requisite transport are being called for in Kabul and on the Khaibar line. It is expected that two Cavalry Regiments of the latter Division, the Carabineers and Eighth Hussars, will be among the first to move. The heat down the line is very great, consequently the movement of troops during the present season will be attended with some, if not greater, risks than last year. From preparations which are being daily made, it is evident a move is anticipated, though no definite orders have been received on the subjects as yet.

General Roberts did not march from Zahidabad yesterday. The weather had interfered with the Survey work, and he probably remained one day longer on that account. The crops in the Logar Valley are very good. Supplies are brought into camp, also to General Hughes, who had been communicated with by heliograph, and reported all well. Kohistan remains quiet; also the neighbours of Kabul. It is thought now that General Roberts will not go to Zurmat, where hostile gatherings were reported.

The meeting of the Ghilzai Chiefs at Tezin has broken up. Most of them proposed peace as long as the British were in the country, but were overruled by Asmatulla Khan who decided in favour of further hostile action. Mahomed Hassan Khan and other chiefs are at Ghazni.

It is time that our camp in Affghansthan should break up. It has proved too costly.

THE CASE of Empress *vrs.* A. C. Blechynden and Jhummun Missir has as might be expected created considerable sensation. The case for the prosecution was set forth as follows:

Mr. Blechynden and his brother had started a sugar factory in a place called Hurpur, in the district of Darbhangah, and the native prisoner was their jemadar. The enterprise was only one which had been entered upon recently and seemed to be a prosperous one. Mr. Blechynden and his jemadar were accused of (under three indictments) having caused the death of Lalla Bishen Dyal (Mr. Blechynden's Lalla writer). The facts connected with the man's death were short, that on Tuesday the 16th of March 1880, at about 10-30 A. M., some men were working in a field opposite the factory bungalow, where Mr. Blechynden lived and had their attention drawn by hearing cries. On looking in the direction of the house they saw either in the verandah or close to it the jemadar holding the deceased's hands, and Mr. Blechynden striking him with his fists. After several blows the man fell down and the witnesses (which the learned Counsel would call) would prove that he was also kicked. The lodgings of one Patuck Behari Lall were close to the factory, and as soon as he was able to do so, the deceased went there. This Patuck Behari Lall, would prove that the deceased appeared "down in the mouth," and his face showed signs of what appeared blows having been administered. The deceased remained with Patuck Lall that night, and the next morning, Wednesday, the 17th, went away to a place called Bazitpur, about 4 miles off. He returned a few days after, and was next seen by some people on his way back, who were seated under a mangoe tree. He spoke to those and then walked on to his house. On the way he was met by a chowkidar of Police, who says he seemed to be very unwell, in fact so much so, as to require his assistance. On Thursday night about midnight the chowkidar went to call the Lalla, but found him dead and subsequently refused to allow his body to be removed or burnt until an investigation had been held. Information was accordingly sent into the station, and the Police authorities went to the spot on Friday morning. The body was taken into Durbhangha, where it arrived at 3 P. M. The idea at the time prevalent in the factory seems to have been that the Lalla died of cholera, but that would be a question for the Jury to decide after hearing the medical evidence. Whether that theory or the one the learned Counsel would put before them (the Jury) was the correct one, remained to be seen. On Saturday, 20th, the Native Assistant Surgeon held a *post mortem* examination (in the absence of the Civil Surgeon) on the body, and he would state in what condition it was. On the 23rd, this officer made his report to the authorities in Durbhangah. The Police investigations did not actively commence till the 24th when the preliminary enquiry took place before the Magistrate. The result of this enquiry was that Mr. Blechynden and his jemadar were sent to the High Court for trial. According to the medical evidence, there was sufficient to lead to the conclusion that the man died from the effect of the blows which had been administered in such a way as to cause concussion of the brain and death. The learned Counsel begged the Jury to pay special attention to the medical evidence in the interests of justice. He told them that the Native Surgeon, who held the *post mortem*, had not had much experience in such matters, but they would be able to judge whether there was anything to find fault with in his report, or with the view he took after the examination of the body. The case depended mostly on this medical evidence, and if the gentlemen of the special Jury were satisfied that the assault was committed, the medical evidence supported that conviction. With reference to the cholera it would be for the learned Counsel for the defence in the course of cross-examination of the medical witness to prove whether that sickness had anything to do with the death of the man. The statements made by Mr. Blechynden and the jemadar were taken down before the Magistrate of Durbhangah, and would be put in as evidence. It was necessary to point out that, in the statement made by the native prisoner, reference was made to a conversation which he had with Mr. Blechynden, and that it transpired that the latter had acknowledged having slapped the deceased on the side of his head on the 13th March. The learned counsel would produce four eye-witnesses to the assault, and six who had met deceased shortly before the assault, and he proposed to put in as evidence the statements made by the deceased to those six men. (Under a certain section of the Evidence Act this step was admissible). If the evidence he produced was such that left no doubt as to the seriousness of the assault, the learned Counsel hoped the Jury would return a verdict against Mr. Blechynden for it, and against the jemadar for abetting in it by holding the deceased's hands.

Nine witnesses were examined for the prosecution, but the jury without calling for the evidence for the defence acquitted the prisoner.

We have nothing to say against the verdict of the jury, but the fact remains uncontradicted that the man Lalla was murdered, and that the foul crime has not been traced to any body. This sad failure of justice cannot but be deeply regretted as a cruel commentary on the administration of justice in this country.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 15th May, 1880.

Our markets have during the past week experienced an increased dullness and nothing of importance has transpired.

IMPORTS.

This market has continued flat and there has hardly been any enquiry during the week for piece-goods save for small parcels of 39in Grey Shirtings and that even with a concession of two annas in the price to the buyers.

Yarns have found buyers to a limited extent for import 40s. at a slight reduction in prices.

Country manufactures have continued steady but operations were confined to a small extent at previous rates.

EXPORTS.

In this market dullness has equally prevailed owing to inadequate supplies combined with high rates of costs and tonnage, which rendered transactions almost impracticable.

Jute.—The unwillingness shown on the part of the buyers to operate at the present prices made the sellers to reduce them to induce business—

Prices ruled at the close of the week were for low to good 4-10 to 5-8.

Seasons.—Stock about 50,000 mds. against 135,000 this time last season.

Oilseeds.—Prices having ruled higher than before, restricted operations, a limited amount of business was only transacted.

Rice.—About 40,000 bags of 2 mds. each consisting of Table, Ballam, Mooghy, Raree and Kheari found buyers at prices much the same as before.

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

There has been very little done.

MONETARY.

There was no alteration made as to the rates of discount and interest at the last meeting of the Directors of the Bank of Bengal; six per cent. per annum continued to be the minimum rate.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

This market owing to the report of the new loan being about to open has been in an unsettled state and prices fluctuated much; the following were the rates during the week:—

10th	May	4%	94	4½%	100
11th	,,	,,	93-12	,,	100-12
12th	,,	,,	94	,,	101-2
13th	,,	,,	93-14 to 93-15	,,	100 to 100-1
14th	,,	,,	93-6 to 93-4	,,	100-4 to 100-2
15th	,,	,,	93-4	,,	99-14 to 99-12

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS

		Rs.	As.	P.
Belgaum Native General Library		10	0	0
Dr. W. C. Mookerjee, Dinagepore		10	0	0
Burrisaul Public Library		15	7	0
Baboo	Bepinbehary Mookerjee, Peshawar	6	10	0
,,	Kalikoomar Das, Luckhipur	6	0	0
,,	Chunder Bhooson Bose, Bhilwara	6	10	0
,,	Preonath Chowdry, Kurseong	13	4	0
,,	Bany Madub Bhottacharjee, Allahabad	13	4	0
,,	Umalochun Majoomdar, Tholla, Tipperah	13	4	0
,,	Gopalchunder Das, Burpetta	5	0	0
,,	Borodapersad Bose, Morar	6	12	0
,,	Upendranath Gangoly, Motecharee	6	10	0
,,	Bungshee Dhur Mohapatar, Jajpur	6	10	0
,,	Chundeechurn Mojoomdar, Mussooree	4	0	0
,,	Nilmadab Bose, Serathoo	5	0	0
,,	Jogendrachunder Banerjee, Lahore	13	4	0
,,	Harichurn Das, Lohardaga	13	4	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*May* 12, 1880.

GENERAL.—Moulvi Imdad Ali, Sub-Deputy Collector, Second Grade, Jamooi, Monghyr, is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the First Grade, *vice* Baboo Debi Prosad, appointed an Assessor under the Bengal License Act, 1880.

Baboo Aghore Nath Mookerjee is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade, *vice* Moulvi Imdad Ali, promoted, and is posted to Begoo Serai, in Mongbyr.

Moulvi Gollam Lillahi is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in Purneah, *vice* Moulvi Abdul Majid, appointed an Assessor under the Bengal License Act, 1880,

Baboo Dino Nath Addy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring the land required for public purposes in that district.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring the land required for public purposes in that district.

Mr. W. C. Taylor, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Second Grade, is promoted to the First Grade of the Subordinate Executive Service, with effect from the 1st January 1880.

Baboo Hem Chunder Mitter, Sub-Deputy Collector, Bongong, in the district of Nuddea, is allowed leave for one week, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Dwarka Nath Mukerjee, Sub-Deputy Collector of Jungypore, in the district of Moorshedabad, is allowed leave for six weeks, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he availed himself of it.

Baboo Juggo Mohun Lall, Sub-Deputy Collector, Cuttack, is allowed leave for fifteen days, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th instant, or from any subsequent date on which he may avail himself of it.

Advertisements.

BABU KESHUB CHUNDER SEN'S SERMONS.

Babu K. C. Sen's Bengalee Sermons are being regularly printed and published in pamphlet forms. The price for every pamphlet is As. 4. To be had at No. 6, College Square Calcutta.

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Hours at Depot 5 A. M. to 8 P. M., when Ice is procurable at half anna per lb. Between 8 P. M. and 5 P.M. a limited quantity of Ice is procurable at one anna per lb. Hours at Factory 6 A. M. to 6 P. M. only when Ice is procurable at one anna per seer in quantities of not less than one seer.

All complaints to be addressed to the agent.

By order of the Directors.

H. I. WESTON, Agent.

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		Rs.	As.	P.
Amount already advertised	...	89,979	5	
The Maharajah of Doomraon	...	1500	0	
E. Claxton Esq., Kheree, Oudh	...	10	0	
Harry De Treyne Esq., Dinagepore	...	16	0	
—Little Esq., Golaghat, Assam	...	10	0	
Sundry Subscribers Per Revd. H. Harford, S.J.		25	0	
Per E. H. Ruddock Esq., Offg. Collr. Jessore.				
Charles Selby Esq.,	...	10	0	
J. H. Oatts Esq.,	...	10	0	
T. R. Slatter Esq.,	...	10	0	
T. Brail Esq., Jr.	...	10	0	
Baboo Durgachurn Bhattacharji		5	0	
,, Gobindachunder Roy	..	50	0	
,, Callychurn Ghosh	...	5	0	
,, Brojamohun Ghosh	...	7	0	
,, Durgachurn Chatterjee	..	6	0	
,, DurgaprosnoneDass	...	5	0	
Other Subscriptions under 5 Rs each		359	3	477 3
Per F. Wyer Esq., Collector of Burdwan.				
H. H. The Maharaja of Burdwan Second Donation	...	1000	0	
BabooLalitmohun Roy,Minor,Chuckdighee Estate	..	500	0	
Lala Bungsagossal Nundy, Zemindar		50	0	
Babu Bhupaty Roy,Subordinate Judge		5	0	
,, Gopalchunder Sen Deputy Collector and Deputy Magistrate		5	0	
,, Gobindaprosad Tewary, Zemindar	...	5	0	
Dr. Murray, Civil Surgeon	...	16	0	
Mrs. Wyer	...	20	0	
		1601	0	
Less charges	...	1	0	1600 0
N. T. Ryves Esq.,Barharwah, Chumparun	...	20	0	
Akhowree Kanjee Pershad N. A.		5	0	
Sayud Bakur Ally, Gomasta	...	5	0	
Bikhum Lall	...	5	0	
Amlah, Opium Bettiah Kotee	...	5	0	
,, ,, Ramnaggur Kotee	..	5	0	45 0
Collected at Sangor by Revd. W. I. Burdett...				124 8
,, Damah ,, ,,	..			34 4
Per Colman Macaulay Esq., Offg. Collector. 24 Pergunnahs.				
Baboo Girijaprosono Mookerjee of Goverdanga	...	100	0	
,, Jogendrochunder Ghose of Kidderpore	...	50	0	150 0
The Residents of Jalaun Khas Zila Jalaun	...	21	12	
Less Charges for money-order	...	0	4	21 8
A Sympathiser	...		...	20 0
M. Kunny Esq., Manager Ranigunge Coal Company	..		...	25 0
G. H. Kiernander Esq., for May			...	10 0
Baboo Sreenarayan Roy of Chanchra			...	5 0
Per R. Carstairs Esq., Serampore.				
Baboo Upendranath Bhuttacharji...		25	0	
,, Bhuggobuttychurn Banerji	..	5	0	
Other Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each		4	0	
		34	0	
Less postage for 3 Registered Covers		0	15	33 1
Per Hon. Secy. Comillah Committee.				
From the assets of the Syud Busarat Ali Estate in Tipperah			...	209 0
Per Collector of Moorshedabad.				
Baboo Romeschunder Mookerji	...	10	0	
,, Jogendranath Roy	..	50	0	
,, Ramchunder Banerjee		5	0	
,, Prannath Mulik	..	5	0	
,, Juhral Hossain	...	10	0	
,, Bhubaneshar Sing	..	5	0	
,, Ramdas Sen& Radhcachurn Sen		50	0	
,, Suryakumar Pundit	..	15	0	
,, Monnulal Chatterjee	...	5	0	
,, Jagurnath Prosad Gupta	..	10	0	
Nowab Syud Zafer Ali Khan Bahadoor	..	30	0	
Nowab Syud Azimali Khan Bahadoor		200	0	
Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each		15	0	410 0
Per Deputy Commissioner, Shillong.				
Further Subscriptions by native residents of Shillong	..	44	4	
Less charges	..	0	9	43 11
			Rs.	94,739 8

£3,750 remitted to the Duchess of Marlborough's Fund,
£3,750 remitted to the Lord Mayor of Dublin,

Calcutta, 15th May 1880. } H. W. I. WOOD, *Hony. Treasurer*

☞ *The item of Rs.* 17 *in the list of* 30*th April was erroneously entered as received from the Hony. Secy. Comillah Committee.*

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English Translation of Durgesnandini.

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Report by the Directors

PRESENTED TO THE SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY, *Held at Edinburgh on Friday 4th April*, 1879.

The Directors submitted the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December, 1878.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1034 Policies, assuring £1,034,651, the new Premiums on which amount to £33,,022-17-3.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 20 Endowments, were 262 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amounts, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £220,243-10, after deducting reassurances.

The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,852,566-11-3, being £140,689-19-8 above what it was on 31st December, 1877. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

Annuity Business.

In the Annuity Department 55 Bonds were issued securing the sum of £2,969-0-6 yearly, and for which, the Company received the sum of £28,892-9-4.

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The Diseases of the Chest, and the Consumption reputed incurable to this day will find an almost certain remedy in GRIMAULT & Co.'s Syrup of Hypophosphite of Lime; Asthma, Bronchitis, the different types of Cough, never resist to its salutary influence.

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Renowned Physicians prescribe GRIMAULT'S Matico Injection as the most active and at the same time the most inoffensive remedy in the treatment of Acute and Chronic Diseases. The Matico Capsules, specially convenient to the persons who prefer an internal medication have not, like Copaiba, the inconvenience of giving Nausea.

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Tonic, Reconstituent and Digestive of prime ord r, particularly suitable to Feeble subjects, Convalescents, old people, and Rickety Children, who find in them the Calcareous Elements entering into the Constitution of the Bones, well adapted to Ladies in the Family Way and Wet Nurses (whose milk it enriches.

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Asthma, Nervous Coughs, Chronic, Laryngitis, Hoarseness, Loss of Voice, Facial Neuralgia, and Insomnia are rapidly relieved by using these Cigarettes.

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A single powder of this vegetable production is sufficient to cure instantaneously the most violent Sick Headache. It is the most valuable remedy against Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and all disorders proceeding from derangement of Stomach or Bowels.

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☞ *PRICE REDUCED.*

DESERVING as it is of the name of Amritarasa it has been winnowing fragrance of its name by its most uncommon power of efficacy. It is infallible in the cure of the most obstinate diseases; such as Pthisis, Consumption, Headache, diseases of the Heart, Asthma, Palpitation of the Heart, Acidity, Cholic pains of all kinds, Chronic Fever, Mercurial Affections, Spleen, Jaundice, Liver, Chronic Dysentery and various other disease. In all sorts of Female Affections it greatly contributes to the improvement of health. Mothers whose children were a prey to immediate death after delivery have seen them live and prosper after the application of this wonderful medicine. The medicine has a peculiar quality of being most uninjurious and can be applied to infants and ladies with delicate health without fear.

The cost of a phial is Rs. 4 and Postage about Re. 1-4. The parcels for abroad are well-packed and carefully forwarded.

INFALLIBLE CHOLERA PILLS.

The medicine is the best of its kind discovered and gives immediate relief. More than ninety per cent. patients are being cured. The cost of fifty pills, which can be administered in more than twenty cases is Rs. 3.

The following are the translation of and extracts from only a few of the testimonials from patients who were cured by the use of my abovenamed medicines. They will be published in full in the form of a Pamphlet soon.

HEM CHUNDRA BANERJI,
Missir Pokhra, Benares.

DEAR SIR,

It is with much pleasure I bear testimony, to the great curative effect of your Cholera Pills purchased of you last year by my brother-in-law Babu Ishan Chundra Banerjee. In numerous cases of cholera it has been proved to be all what was claimed a speedy recovery. It was administered to some 40 cases and I am happy to say all of which proved quite successful, to say the truth it did miracles amongst us. If there be any genuine medicine for cholera I must say your "Cholera Pills" is the only one. I recommend every gentleman to have, during the cholera season, some of these pills in their hands so that they may reap the benefits of it in time. I consider it a boon amongst us and well worth the amount charged for.

You are at liberty to make use of above lines if you desire, as what I say is no exaggeration.

RAM SATYA MOOKERJI,
Behar Indigo Planters Association, Mozaffarpur.

My freind Baboo Kristo Nath Singha was bitterly suffering for about four years from Piles, Asthma and Debility. No one, for a moment, could believe that his heatlh would be restored to him nor had they any hope of his life. As if inspired by the Almighty he began to use your Amritarasa and in a short time life was infused into him. The people here have taken it to be a miracle and the sufferers among them most importunately request you to take them under your treatment.

ESHUR CHUNDRA ROY,
Silk Factory, Chorebagan, Calcutta.

The patient who was suffering from the complication of Fever, Spleen, Asthma and other diseases has been thoroughly cured. His case was a hopeless one to Doctors and Boiddas who were consulted. The efficaciousness of your Amritarasa is wonderful.

RAM NARAIN SHAHA,
New Medical Hall, Bhaugulpore.

My youngest was under the treatment of many eminent physicians, owing to his suffering from Spleen, Dyspepsia, Diarrhœa and sores in mouth, for a protracted period of several years with no effect. At last he had recourse to your Amritarasa by the application of which he has regained his health, beauty and his usual liveliness.

RAKHAL DAS CHUCKERBUTTY,
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shobha.

Why should I refrain from enumerating the excellent qualities of your rare valuable and life-giving medicine "Amritarasa" A friend of mine who suffered for a long time from Head-ache and who tried every medicine English as well as Native has at last been relieved from his disease by using your Amritarasa.

RAJENDRA NATH DUTTA,
Secretary, Royna Club.

Amritarasa has been well-tried in the case of my mother who was suffering from colic pain. The result has been wholesome.

MOHIM CHUNDER BHUTTACHARJEE,
Gungarampore, Dinagepore.

Thanks to your "Amritarasa." I have seen the wonderful recoveries of Baboo Radha Nath Mokerjee and his wife from their respective maladies, fearful chronic dysentry and asthma of many years' standing.

SHAMA CHARN MITTRA,
Bansdiha.

A phial of your Amritarasa was used to check the attacks of Dysentery, Dyspepsia and Fever in a lying-in woman. She has perfectly recovered.

HURRI DOYAL CHOUDRY,
Worookshaha, Burdwan.

The wife of my friend was suffering from dysmenorhœia. In times the discharge of blood in her was frightful, and to such an extent that any one would swoon away before the sight. She was under treatment of every description. I am glad to inform you that she owes her recovery to your Amritarasa only.

RAKHAL DASS CHUKKERBUTTY.
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shabha, Nandan, Burdwan.

One of my relatives is almost entirely cured from the complication of such diseases, as chronic fever, spleen and diarrhœa of 7, 5 and 1 years standing respectively. With all these he was greatly reduced too. The efficaciousness of your Amritrasa is beyond description.

MADHUR CHANDRA BASU.
Mymari, Burdwan.

Amritarasa holds the most wonderful power of efficacy in the cure of hysteria, my wife had not had any attack of it since she used it.

SOORESH CHANDRA GHOSE.
Asstt. Surgeon, Roorki.

Eighteen times I procured your medicine which being administered in cases of Asthma, Gout, Chronic fever, Acidity and many other diseases proved quite successful except in the cases of two persons; my wife owes her recovery to this medicine.

DOORGA CHURN BANERJEA.
Bhowanipur, Calcutta.

I bought your medicine to the extent of a sum of Rs. 500. This is a wonderful medicine. In most obstinate diseases it has shown its wonderful power of curing as if by charm. Its efficacy has been fully observed in the cure of such diseases as colic pain, asthma, new and chronic consumption, chronic dysentery, hysteria and other female affections.

KYLASH CHUNDRA ROY MAHASOY.
Zemindar and Honorary Magistrate
Dehoorda, Baleswar.

This wretch is not going to leave you even now but this time I have brought with me such happy news that I am sure I will not incur your displeasure.

Last year exactly in this time, I procured 2 phials of your Amritarasa which you might not remember. For the last 20 years I was suffering from Dyspepsia, Doctors and Kobirajes were consulted in vain. It was also made known to you that I was a great opieta. After the receipt of your wonderful medicine I used one of the two phials but not a particle of good had been done to me notwithstanding I was convinced that the medicine will not be of any use to me untill I can renounce the habit of using opium. But you know Sir, what a difficult task it is for a man like myself to leave opium. This year, however, for various reasons I have renounced my old habit of using opium and have used the remaining one phial with a wonderful wholesome result. I am now thoroughly convinced that I will have my relief by using this medicine. The disease being of many years standing I shall have to use it for a long time for which I send you Rs. 22 for four phials of your Amritarasa. Please comply. I request you not to give this medicine to any one accustomed to the use of opium because in doing so it will be brought to misuse.

SHURID CHUNDER BANERJEE
2nd Clerk, Tipperah Post Office.

Ten rupees worth Cholera Pills bought from you were all used with success. All the patients were cured.

ROMONI KANT ROY
Damrah, Manickgunge.

Ninety patients were cured by your Cholera Pills which I procured.

GOPAL CHUNDER ADHOORJA
Maliara, Doorgapore.

I have great pleasure to inform you that I tried your Cholera Pills in fifty cases, in all of which they proved successful except in the cases of 5 or 7 persons whose diseases were in their most advanced state.

C. W. RICHARDSON.
Chairman, Satara Municipality.

I am requested by the Maharajah of Burdwan to inform you that during the outbreak of Cholera here which happened to occur among the Maharaja's servants your pills were tried and proved to be the best remedy in the cur of this infectious disease.

T. B. MILLER.
Private Secretary.

I have great pleasure in saying that in the year 1876 I have cured 80 out of 86 persons suffering from Cholera with the pills of Baboo Hem Chundra Banerjee. The Civil Surgeon of Benares made an enquiry of me regarding these cures and has kept with him all the papers showing the result and written by my own hand.

GOPEE NATH SOOKOOL.
Benares.

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SILVER MEDALS FOR THE YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES

WE beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to Colleges and Schools, to our large and varied Stock of SILVER MEDALS, suitable for Presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

The Empress Medal, Rs. 30 cash.

Having been repeatedly asked for a Medal bearing the representation of Her Majesty the Queen, we have just produced

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A GOLD or SILVER MEDAL, of 1¾ inches in diameter.

Cash Prices { Gold Medal, in Case ... ... Rs. 200
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It bears on the OBVERSE the head and bust of Her Majesty, within the legend "Victoria Empress," and on the REVERSE a raised Laurel Wreath only; thus leaving space for inscription. *Vide* Illustration.

The Temple of Fame Medal 1¾-inch, Rs. 20 cash in case.
The Star Medal... ... ... Rs. 16 in case.
The Triumph of Industry Medal ..... Rs. 16 in case.
Plain Silver Medals, 1¾ inches diameter ... Rs. 10 in case.
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NOTE.—The prices quoted are for the Medals and Cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.

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MESSRS. CORFIELD & Co., Surgeon Dentists of Calcutta invite the attention of the Native community to their celebrated Artificial Teeth. These teeth are not, as many are made of ivory or bone, but are made purely of *stone*. They may therefore be worn by Orthodox Hindus, without violence to their caste prejudices.

When fitted by Messrs. Corfield and Co.'s process these artificial teeth cause no pain and give no discomfort to the wearer, they are exact imitations of natural teeth, and enable the wearer to articulate properly, and to masticate perfectly, any and every kind of food. They thus not only contribute largely to the personal comfort but also improve the general health by ensuring the proper mastication of food, which cannot be accomplished by those who have lost their teeth and are without good artificial substitutes.

Prices regulated to suit the means of all classes.

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Steam Ploughs, Horse Ploughs &c., &c., &c.,

STEAM CULTIVATING TACKLE WITH SIE VENS PATENT PLOUGH & CULTIVATOR. FOUR FURROWS, WITH

1 Dozen Extra Ploughshares		2 Dozen Extra Shares	R. S. 2
2 Extra Tines for Cultivator		1 " " "	R. S. 4
1 Dozen Extra Shares	S. 2	1 " " "	R. S. 4
1 " " "	S. 3	1 Extra Screws with Collars for raising the main wheel.	

Extra Draft Hooks, Bolts, Keys, and Pinions, and 8 Extra Iron Coulters for heavy lands.

Howard's Patent Double-Breast Or Ridging Ploughs.

These Ploughs are intended for moulding up or forming ridges for turnips, mangolds, and potatoes. The breasts are fitted in a neat and simple manner: they can be readily expanded or contracted to any required with, and this independently of each other. By simply removing the breasts, which can be done instantly, and attaching the hoes shewn in the annexed engraving, these implements can be used as horse hoes.

Ploughs for small Bullocks or Ponies.

Howard's Patent Iron Dwarf Plough, with one wheel Marked D' each ... ... Rs. 45

This plough is intended to be worked by a small horse or bullock. It is adapted for light land, for stirring loose soil, and for any kind of shallow ploughing where the draught is easy.

The average weight of the above Plough is 1½ cwt.

Howard's Patent Turnerest Plough, with one Wheel each ... ... Rs. 32

The above plough is the most useful made for very hard, rooty, or stony ground, being very strong and reversible.

Howard's Expanding Horse Hoe each ... ... Rs. 70

This Implement is intended for one row of turnips, potatoes, or beans, or for three rows of wheat, barley, &c. The hoes are made to suit the different widths of the rows, and are so arranged that the frame never projects beyond the outside hoes. The advantage of this arrangement is very great when hoeing highstanding crops.

It is fitted with an expanding harrow, which works behind the implement and brings the weeds to the surface.

The average weight of the above is 1½ cwt.

Whitehead's Patent Horse Hoes, each ... ... Rs. 55
Carson's Patent Expanding Horse Hoes, each ... Rs. 60

Ten per cent off the above prices for Cash.

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Backergunge District Road Cess Comittee's Office, the 19th April 1880. } J. C. VEASY, *Chairman Road Cess Committee.*

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